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Hebron settlers plan 'defense force'

BILL HUTMAN

JEWISH residents of Hebron are setting up quasi-militias to protect themselves in the event of IDF redeployment in the city, community spokesman Noam Arnon said last night.

"We are organizing our own defense system, to make sure that what happened at Joseph's Tomb [which Palestinians attacked last month] doesn't happen to us," Arnon said.

He said armed "civil defense" units would be the backbone of the community's effort to protect itself.

He said community leaders were not satisfied with the explanations which senior IDF officers gave on the defense of the community during recent meetings, and so they decided to take security into their own hands.

"Let's say that several thousand Palestinians starting marching towards us from the Islamic College... We aren't just going to wait in our homes, but are going to go out and meet them and prevent them from approaching," Arnon said.

"I have no doubt that if there is redeployment, sooner or later the Palestinians will attack us, as they did at Joseph's Tomb and Kfar Darom."

Members of the city's Jewish community might try to block army jeeps or take over hilltop posts evacuated by the IDF, but such moves would only be symbolic, as the community realizes that once the redeployment decision is made it can't be stopped, Arnon said.

Council leaders also said that if the government goes ahead with redeployment, they are likely to organize protests, but have no illusions that such action will prevent the pull-out.

Several right-wing groups are scheduled to meet this morning to discuss plans for a demonstration next week in Jerusalem to protest the proposed redeployment.



Jordanian Ambassador Omar Rifai (left) and Egyptian Ambassador Mohammed Bassiouny turn towards the camera as their meeting with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu begins yesterday. (Reuters)

Israeli negotiators arrive in Taba for talks with PA

JON IMMANUEL

THE Israeli delegation to the talks with the Palestinians left for Taba last night, more than 12 hours behind schedule, but that should be taken as a positive sign, a source close to the negotiators said.

"It's too early to talk about what the results of the talks will be, but you should note that the consultations were extended beyond their planned length and they came to certain conclusions," the source said.

Even before the consultations between the leading negotiators and Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, "90 percent of what has been said has been disinformation, mostly from the Palestinian side," he said.

It is also too early to know whether the likelihood of greater Israeli flexibility in Hebron will satisfy the Palestinians, who have been waiting two days in Taba for

instructions from Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat, who was in Cairo yesterday.

Arafat, backed by Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Moussa, continued to say that Israel is trying to change the agreement. He added that Israel plans to create two towns, one run by the Arah municipality and one by Israel. He called this "more racist than South Africa" under apartheid.

Hebron Mayor Mustafa Natshe said it is impossible to accept demands like limits on the height of apartment buildings in areas where Jews walk or a ban on public buildings near their homes, because the core of the Hebron accord was to assert the municipality's rights throughout the city.

"We have the right to decide and to build

in the whole of the city," he said.

But Natshe said Israeli fears the municipality would change the arrangements for Jewish worship at the Tomb of the Patriarchs are unfounded, since the Oslo agreement specifies that the status quo at the site would not change until the matter is renegotiated, starting three months after the redeployment.

In comparison, the Palestinians have been more forthcoming on the burning issue of hot pursuit. They will not let soldiers enter the Palestinian areas unescorted, saying the soldiers could be shot at without proper coordination. They have suggested increased use of joint mobile units.

"Isn't that what partnership is about?" a Palestinian source close to the negotiators asked.

Settlers vow to take to streets again

BILL HUTMAN

SETTLERS and their supporters must again take to the streets in protest against the government, following nearly four months of relative quiet since the elections, the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria, and Gaza decided during an emergency meeting last night.

"Our aim is not in trust the government of Binyamin Netanyahu, but to provide the counterpressure which will offset the other pressure he is getting [to continue with the Oslo process and freeze building on settlements]," said Nissim Slomiansky, a senior council member.

"I never thought it would come to this after we worked so hard to get Netanyahu elected. But I believe we now have no choice."

The policy change was triggered by the pending IDF redeployment in Hebron. Settlement leaders condemned the planned move as a fatal mistake, which will endanger the city's Jewish community.

But equally important in the decision is "the de facto freeze" the government has maintained on housing construction in the settlements, council members said.

"We have waited with great patience, but to our sorrow, we have yet to hear what we want," said Udi Leberman of Karmel Shomron. He said the situation is particularly upsetting since the settlement movement had given great support to Netanyahu's election campaign.

Council head Pinhas Wallerstein said the Netanyahu government "has not built one new [Jewish] neighborhood" in the territories, and placed partic-

ular blame on Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai.

"The defense minister's signature is required seven times before a building project can go ahead in a settlement," Wallerstein said.

Simmiansky, who spearheaded the right-wing protests against the Rabin government, outlined a "stages plan" for demonstrating against the Netanyahu government, with protests to become larger and more confrontational if the prime minister doesn't meet their demands.

The council members unanimously approved the plan, the details of which are to be worked out soon, and a statement calling on Netanyahu not to redeploy in Hebron.

Small protests either in front of the Defense Ministry or Mordechai's home are to begin next week, Slomiansky said. Perhaps as early as next week, settlers will also begin building new homes without government approval, he added.

The council is also considering returning to the hilltops in different locations in Judea and Samaria settlers claimed last year, a move that at the time set off violent confrontations with the army and nearby Palestinian residents.

The council will also renew massive demonstrations, if the other measures don't succeed in changing government policy in the territories, Slomiansky said.

"I still have all the old plans we used under the previous government, and it's just a matter of putting them to work again," he said.

Likud MK Gideon Ezra made an unexpected appearance before the council members, causing a major ruckus as he tried to defend the government's policy.

Ezra was heckled by many in the crowd when he called on the settlement leaders to "work together [with the government] toward achieving peace."

Farrakhan calls for UN intervention in Arab-Israel conflict

MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK

NATION of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan yesterday sought United Nations intervention in the Arab-Israeli conflict, suggesting this was the way to avert "Armageddon."

In a rambling 2 1/2 hour speech at a rally in New York, Farrakhan also said his organization should be allowed to accept \$1 billion from Libya. The US has already denied that request.

Farrakhan's rally, billed as a World Day of Atonement, marked the one-year anniversary of the Million Man March in Washington. He drew more than 15,000 men and women to a rally across the street from the United Nations that spilled onto 20 blocks.

Before coming to New York, Farrakhan said in an interview with Newsweek magazine that he wanted to speak with Jewish leaders, who in turn dismissed the suggestion. They held to that view yesterday.

"He has not repudiated his own statements regarding the Jewish community and until he atones for his own behavior, we will relate to him as we do to any unrepentant bigot and antisemite - from a comfortable distance," said Michael Miller, executive director of the New York Jewish Community Relations Council.

"There was no atonement," said Abraham Foxman, the head of the Anti-Defamation League. "There was a sense of arrogance in his defending everything as divinely inspired truth."

On the streets, Farrakhan followers were selling the standard antisemitic tracts, including *The Protocols of the Elders of Zion* and *The Jews and Their Lies* by Martin Luther.

"There's your reconciliation," Foxman said sarcastically.

But Farrakhan's targets had changed somewhat.

"I found it more offensive as an American than I did as a Jew," Foxman said, citing Farrakhan's attacks and his "conspiracy theories" against the US government and its institutions.

"The only praise he had was for Libya, Iran and Iraq," Foxman said.

The key leaders of the black community, who spoke to the hundreds of thousands of black men who gathered last year in Washington, did not attend yesterday's event.

Farrakhan made no specific accusation against the Jews in his speech, which was laden with as many references to Jewish scripture as to the Koran. And although he spent considerable time on his version of the history of slave-trading, he leveled no vitriolic accusation against the Jews for any part in the slave trade.

However, Farrakhan said he should be allowed to accept a \$1 billion gift from Libya as expiation for the sins of the Arabs in being part of the slave trade. It was suggested that this be matched by the US and the

Jewish world, who also had a role in the slave trade, he said.

Farrakhan blamed the American government for social ills involving guns and drugs, saying this is "a nation that hates our multiplication so much that they will bring guns in, drugs in."

"The UN must take up the plight of black people in America or they will be the victims of genocide," Farrakhan said, drawing cheers from the crowd, who could also watch him speak on monitors from numerous intersections near the UN.

The US is investing in war, Farrakhan said, and to increase arms sales, the US "will stimulate trouble between two neighbors." He castigated Saudi Arabia for buying American arms. Although the Saudis are "my brothers and sisters," he said, "I have to rebuke you when you are wrong. You're wrong."

The fiery minister said he was "asking all leaders of the Moslem world to cease all acts of terror."

But, in what Foxman called a "throwback to the 1960s," Farrakhan called for the UN, which created Israel, to enhance the role of self-determination for the Palestinians.

Having said, "We are on the brink of Armageddon. Can the UN avert the war of Armageddon?" Farrakhan called, toward the end of his speech, for justice for the Palestinians, saying this was the way to prevent Armageddon.



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PM irked by Arafat's 'stalling' on Hebron

DAVID MAKOVSKY and LIAT COLLINS

PALESTINIAN Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat's pointed refusal to acknowledge any progress in the Hebron talks is upsetting the government, and may be aimed at stirring up further Palestinian discontent, which could trigger violence, officials in the Prime Minister's Office charged.

They said that if Palestinian violence or a terror attack should ensue, there will be no Hebron redeployment.

Senior US officials have also made clear that the Palestinians are mistaken if they believe they might get a better deal if they hold off a negotiated settlement until after the US elections.

Meanwhile, Israeli and Palestinian negotiators held talks last night in Taba. The Israeli team consulted with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu before departing.

During this past week, US officials have sought to avoid formal talks, believing that much more can be accomplished in informal sessions than in larger delegations.

Israeli officials insist there has been significant progress in talks, though Arafat insists this is not the case. Yesterday, in a Knesset speech, Foreign Minister David Levy insisted an agreement could be completed "within hours."

He attacked Arafat for flying to Cairo to consult with Arah leaders instead of remaining in Gaza, where he would be more available for negotiations.

"There has been very impressive progress [but] what it takes is for Mr. Arafat to stop traveling from place to place - and I call on him to do this - as if he had all the time in the world. If he goes on like this, the Israeli government will also have time. No blame falls or will fall on [the government]."

"Therefore, I call on him to give his friends the green light to finish, and to pass on to Arab leaders that there is progress on most issues."

"In contrast to the atmosphere of pessimism being deliberately spread, perhaps as a position-improving tactic, a known technique in negotiations, there is no room for pessimism," Levy said. "The government of Israel entered these talks with the intention of solving the problems. We have put certain issues on the table and these have to be answered."

"We're talking of human lives; we're talking about under what circumstances we can move on to the negotiations on the permanent arrangements. The Israeli government, which adopted the process, intends to

further it until its desired end: that is, the final arrangements.

"The atmosphere which [people] are trying to spread today is in complete contrast to the talks and the progress in solving the issues on the agenda. Maybe somebody has the impression that now, when everyone around [us] is applying pressure, he has time. Maybe he is not interested in solving the problems or making progress at all, and he thinks it is worthwhile to delay and create the feeling of a vacuum. I think he is mistaken and is not interpreting the picture correctly."

The US assessment is somewhere between Israeli optimism and Palestinians' pessimism. State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns said that the US believes there is still "substantial" work ahead.

Clearly, the most sensitive issue is whether the IDF will be allowed to enter the 80 percent of Hebron to be controlled by the Palestinians, called H1. should it receive warnings about the presence of terrorists there.

Officials in Jerusalem are very eager to deflect any allegation that they are delaying the talks. Two days ago, Netanyahu aide David Bar-Ilan charged that Arafat was playing a game of "brinkmanship," perhaps believing that he could get a better deal after the US elections.

In Cairo, Arafat held consultations with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Jordanian Prime Minister Abdul-Karim Kahariti.

"The way it looks right now is that there are differences and we hope that with the mediation of the Americans these differences can be worked out," Kahariti said. "I am hopeful, but without the redeployment in Hebron I think that we will be having a crisis."

Netanyahu also met yesterday with Arah envoys based here. Heads of Arah missions from Egypt, Jordan, Oman, Tunisia, and Mauritania participated. The Moroccan envoy did not attend.

Netanyahu stressed that tough statements from Arab countries "have not been helpful" in the very delicate negotiations. He reiterated his view that with goodwill on the Palestinian side, an agreement on Hebron can easily be concluded.

In a continuing attempt to placate Jordan's King Hussein, Netanyahu dispatched the European Union's Ambassador to the Middle East, Ephraim Halevy, to meet with him. Halevy, a confidant of Hussein, met with him at the king's residence outside London.

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Jaffee Center head warns of putsch danger

ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

THE growing lack of confidence between Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government and the IDF command is reaching crisis levels, raising the still slim chance the army could attempt a putsch, a leading strategic analyst said yesterday.

"There is a lot of mistrust now," Ze'ev Maoz, head of Tel Aviv University's Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies, said in a telephone interview. "There have been disagreements in the past, but they focused on important issues. Now the military elite is suspected of having sold out to the previous government, so its assessments may be viewed as emerging out of a hidden agenda."

"There is a lack of convergence in concepts of the severity of our international situation. The political echelon has been operating under a sense of optimism that the military elite believes has no foundation," Maoz said.

"The military has no opportunity to play the political game to change the situation, therefore the likelihood of a putsch — an illegal act — becomes more and more attractive," Maoz said.

While Maoz believes that the prospects for an actual military revolt are remote, it is no longer impossible.

"The idea looks unrealistic, but the assassination of a prime minister also appeared unrealistic until a year ago," Maoz said.

But politicians and generals dismissed the theory as far-fetched. Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amosm Lipkin-Shahak laughed off the report. Labor MK Ori Orr, a former deputy defense minister and a retired general, rejected Maoz's theory outright.

"The IDF is a citizens' army. It reflects the state. It is so intertwined with the public that [a putsch] couldn't happen," Orr said on Channel 1.

MK Rehavam Ze'evi (Molodet), also a former general, agreed. "Even if all the senior commanders were of one mind, the soldiers would not necessarily follow," he said.

Still, Maoz's comments came amidst growing evidence of unease in Netanyahu's government. Netanyahu, whose cabinet includes four former generals, has attempted to scale down the traditional communication with the IDF top brass, and unlike Yitzhak Rabin, has kept them from his inner circle.

Maoz hinted that Netanyahu's attempt to distance himself from the army has even caused a rift with Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai.

Mordechai has made great efforts to overcome personal animosities and has developed a good working relationship with the General Staff. He was notified of the decision to open the Hasmonian Tunnel only five minutes before it was done, and the first thing he did was tell Shahak.

Earlier this week, Mordechai's media adviser issued a statement flatly denying reports of tension between him and Netanyahu, saying there was a "reciprocal esteem" between them.

Following the violence in the territories late last month, reports surfaced that Shahak had threatened to resign because he lacked confidence in the country's leadership.

The report was categorically denied by the IDF Spokesman, but military sources said later that Shahak was frustrated that army advice appeared to be falling on deaf ears.

In a bizarre incident, the army acknowledged yesterday that hundreds of soldiers attending a memorial ceremony for the Armored Corps at Latrun last Thursday were disarmed because Netanyahu was attending.

Prior to Netanyahu's arrival, General Security Service agents instructed the troops to leave their weapons on their buses.

"[This] was an act showing distrust in the army," Labor MK Haggai Merom told Israel Radio, after soldiers complained to him.



Members of the Palestinian Authority Legislative Council enter the Knesset yesterday. (Gil Reuben/Scoop 80)

PA legislators, Victims of Arab Terror confront each other in Knesset

LIAT COLLINS

THE Knesset plunged into pandemonium yesterday as nine members of the Palestinian Authority's Legislative Council sat on one side of the visitors' gallery, invited by the Hadash faction, while on the opposite side sat bereaved parents and members of Victims of Arab Terror, the guests of Molodet MK Benny Elon.

The two groups were separated by a large number of Knesset guards, while tension exploded on the floor below. The epithets started just before the Palestinian delegation arrived, as Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi was answering an Elon call for a commission of inquiry into why the previous government gave the Palestinians guns. Hanegbi said flippantly that the proposal could be broadened to include other matters, at which

point Dalia Itzik (Labor) called out, "Such as who killed Yitzhak Rabin."

Her call was picked up by Meretz leader Yossi Sarid, causing Molodet leader Rehavam Ze'evi to respond, "A provocateur of the General Security Service." Zvi Handel (National Religious Party) nodded his approval of Ze'evi's retort.

A general uproar followed with MKs from the left accusing Handel and Ze'evi of saying the GSS had killed Rabin. The chaos was fueled further when Hanegbi accused the left of turning every debate into a "reconstructed and recycled" argument on Rabin's death.

Ze'evi was visibly upset by the arrival of the Palestinians. As they entered, he shouted, "Murderers have come in! Murderers have

come in!"

When Abdul Wahab Darawshe (Democratic Arab Party) called Ze'evi "a fascist," Speaker Dan Tichon ordered him to leave the plenum. He was closely followed by Avi Yehezkel (Labor), who loudly exclaimed that Tichon "had short a short fuse" and "should take a valium before chairing a session." As he left, Yehezkel called: "You're the first political Speaker."

However, the next MK to be removed was Ze'evi, for pointing and exclaiming: "Are the murderers going to carry on sitting there?"

The next disturbance came from the visitors' gallery, when VAT head Shifra Hoffman was asked to leave. She was escorted out saying loudly, "This isn't the Land of Israel. It's the Land of Ishmael."

Darawshe was allowed to return to respond to the motion, which he did in Arabic, providing a rough translation in Hebrew.

This inspired Elon to announce, "I hope the translation isn't like [PA Chairman Yasser] Arafat's when he says 'jihad' in Arabic and 'peace' in English."

Later Hanegbi raised some eyebrows when he said: "I'm happy that representatives of the Palestinian Authority are here for this debate."

Pini Badash (Isomet) responded: "You're replacing Shulamit Aloni." Hanegbi also clarified certain red lines for the "majority in the House," saying on to the division of Jerusalem; no to the transfer of 160,000 Jewish settlers from Judea and Samaria; and "no to the creation of a Palestinian state armed to the teeth."

Baltimore Jews boost coexistence in Galilee

DAVID RUDGE

A NEW project in the Misgav region of the Galilee is helping to improve Jewish-Arab coexistence and promote tourism in the area.

The "neighbors" scheme was established a year ago by the Makom Bagail educational-tourism center at Moshav Shorashim in conjunction with neighboring Sakhniin.

"Relations between Jews and

Arabs are very complex, but we believe that peace begins at home," said Rabbi Marc Rosenstein, director of the center.

"The aim of this project is to help create better understanding between Jewish and Arab residents of the region and establish

a sense of economic partnership, while promoting and developing tourism."

In the project, high school students from Sakhniin, who have taken a special course at the center, take groups of visitors on guided walking tours of their village and host them afterward at their homes.

The tours include a visit to the memorial to the first Land Day demonstrations in 1976, when Israeli-Arabs protested against expropriations, and to a mosque and a church and the tomb of the talmudic sage Joshua of Sakhniin.

Rosenstein said that more than 3,000 foreign visitors, mainly teenage Israel experience groups from Jewish communities abroad, had already participated in the tour.

Yesterday, a group of nearly 70

visitors from Baltimore, which under the United Jewish Appeal's Partnership 2000 plan is twinned with Karmiel and Misgav, visited Sakhniin.

"The people in Sakhniin were very hospitable and were very nice to us at their house," said Morton Plant, head of the Baltimore community mission.

"We did manage to get a feel of the place, but I wish there had been more time for us to learn more. I think this is a great idea." One of the guides, Wadia Elias, 16, whose family is among the Christian minority in the predominantly Moslem town, said the project had helped him and Sakhniin itself.

"I asked my teachers and they said my English had improved a great deal since I started to participate in this project. It also contributes a great deal to Jewish-Arab coexistence, while helping to bring tourists to the town," he said.

NEWS IN BRIEF

- Four killed in road accidents**
Four people were killed and five injured, two seriously, in four road accidents yesterday, three of which involved trucks.
- Man stabbed in Old City**
A Jewish man was stabbed in the shoulder and lightly wounded yesterday evening in Jerusalem's Old City. He said that two youths, who appeared to be 16 or 17 years old, attacked him and tried to steal his bag. The man made his way to the security station by the Western Wall, where he was given first aid.
- Arab sector to strike today**
The Arab local authorities have called a 24-hour strike for today to protest a Housing Ministry report which calls for an emergency plan to settle Jews in the Galilee, to prevent the Arabs there from becoming a minority. Arab leaders are also demanding that the local authorities' NIS 380 million deficit be covered and additional funds be allocated.
- Life sinks in the Knesset**
A Knesset plenary debate was interrupted yesterday to discuss the news of the death of the late Raphael Fuchs (Stasi) declared the speaker, Speaker Dan Tichon attributed the problem to a breakdown in the air conditioning system and the ongoing renovation work in the new kibbutz. Apparently President Ezer Weizman had also complained of strange smells during his visit on Tuesday.

Sneh launches bid for Labor leadership

MICHAL YUDELMAN

MK Efraim Sneh launched his campaign for the Labor Party leadership at a large gathering at Ramat Efraim last night.

Speaking to hundreds of supporters, Sneh promised he is not "Bibi-compatible," in what was taken as a barb at his rival, MK Ehud Barak, more than a criticism of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Those invited to the gathering included party members and MKs associated with other camps.

"Anyone who wants a Bihi-compatible need not support me, because I'm not going to be anything like him."

"Some people think that to defeat Bibi, one has to be like him. But I hear from more and more people that the nation is fed up with the Bibi model. It's a model

Palestinian Council members get mixed response

LIAT COLLINS

WHEN nine members of the Palestinian Legislative Council posed for a picture on the steps of the Knesset yesterday, it was clear their visit was going to generate mixed feelings in the House.

The nine were guests of the Hadash faction and met with MKs from Meretz, the Democratic Arab Party, and Labor. The sole Likud MK to meet them, former deputy General Security Service head Gideon Ezra, noted that he knew some of the delegation from their days as security prisoners.

The most prominent member of the group, Marwan Barghouti, Fatah general secretary in the West Bank, said he hoped that relations could develop between the MKs and the council members "as befits two parliaments."

He denied the visit could be perceived as recognizing Israel's sovereignty over Jerusalem and said rather that "it is a sign the Knesset recognizes us."

He added that he hoped to meet with parties from the right "within another few weeks."

Deputy Speaker Shevah Weiss (Labor) met the delegation, but Speaker Dan Tichon pointedly avoided speaking to it.

"There is nothing more important than contacts between public figures," Weiss said, adding that since the council was democratically elected he had no problem with the visit.

Ezra also saw no reason to boycott the visit.

"There are meetings in Taba, Tel Aviv, and Jerusalem. Why shouldn't there be a meeting in the Knesset?" he asked.

In his address to the Palestinians, however, Ezra's tone was tougher. He said more Likud MKs would have met with them had it not been for the bloodshed last month.

"I expect you to denounce the violence," he told the Palestinians. "The security situation is not the same for Arabs and Jews. The Arab who lives alone with his family on a hilltop does not have to fear attack, but the Jew who lives on a hilltop has to surround himself with guards, and now fears the Palestinian Police, too."

This sparked remarks by Arab MKs who said the settlers should move to the Galilee, the Negev, and Tel Aviv.

Ezra also called on the council members to stop talking about establishing a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital.

"Those are subjects for the permanent arrangements; let's first deal with Hebron," he said.

His words, however, were ignored by both the guests and most of the MKs who met with them, who spent a great deal of time discussing a Palestinian state.

Council member Fares Kadura attacked the government for not abiding by the Oslo accords, called for a freeze on settlements, and demanded the release of Palestinian security prisoners.

Delal Saleme said she was excited to be in the Knesset.

"I couldn't have imagined it a few years ago," she said. "But I think it is a good. We must communicate with friends on the Israeli side."

A delegation of French parliamentarians who happened to be visiting the Knesset at the same time, also met with the Palestinians. Francis Wurtz, from the Communist Party, called the gathering "a sign of hope for the future."

But there were some who could not forget the past.

Bereaved parents of terror victims gathered outside the visitors' gallery waiting for the council members to arrive.

"I'm here because I want to see what my son's murderers look like," said Leah Meodelsohn, whose son, Yair Yehiel, was gunned down near Ramallah seven years ago.

Clutching her son's picture, she kept repeating: "I want to see another country that would act like this. They have blood on their hands. They're murderers."

Call to let settlers fill empty apartments

LIAT COLLINS

YISRAEL Ba'alya and the National Religious Party are calling on Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to immediately allow the 3,000 empty apartments in Judea and Samaria to be occupied. The demand was made at a meeting between the two factions.

Among the other issues addressed at the meeting, which the NRP initiated, were secular-religious relations; the cultural and religious absorption of immigrants; and government policy.

Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky emphasized the importance he places on tradition and Jewish history, while opposing religious coercion.

"Today there are some 700 non-kosher stores which have been opened by new immigrants, and I say it would be very bad to close them. Most of the new immigrants aren't religious, but aren't anti-religious. Closing these stores would pull them into the fight against religion. Coercion is not effective. It harms attitudes towards religion," he said.

Transport Minister Yitzhak Levy said the NRP also opposes coercion.

Absorption minister Yuli Edelstein asked for help in solving matters regarding personal status issues, such as conversion and marriage, which are determined by the Chief Rabbinate and religious councils. He praised the rabbinic's efforts in solving the problem of non-religious burials.

Olmert: I won't hesitate to demolish illegal buildings

BILL HUTMAN

PALESTINIANS have illegally built thousands of homes in Jerusalem, some of them with the Palestinian Authority's encouragement, "in a flagrant challenge to Israel's rule in the city," Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert said yesterday.

"We have no choice but to take action against those people who build illegally," Olmert said. "There is nothing political about our position. We are simply enforcing the law."

Speaking to reporters during a tour of the city with Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak, Olmert warned that the municipality would not hesitate to demolish illegally

built homes, despite the international outcry such action has sparked in the past.

"We have files on thousands of homes built without permits, hundreds of these cases are now in the courts, and as the legal process is completed, we will carry out the demolitions," Olmert said. "We know of cases in which the Palestinian Authority has paid people to build homes without permits, in flagrant challenge to Israel's rule in the city."

The issue of illegal construction was raised on the tour, as Shahak was shown where Palestinian homes, some built in violation of zoning laws, stood in the way of roads being planned by City Hall. Shahak, who was taken on the tour because some of the proposed roads pass through the administered territories, which are under his authority, declined to answer questions.

Much of the tour centered on the proposed eastern Jerusalem beltway, which the municipality has been pushing for several years. City planners said construction of the highway would mean demolishing some 40 Palestinian homes.

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

The Nicole and Oscar Ghez de Castellonovo WIZO day care centre was inaugurated yesterday (16.10.96) in Lapid in the presence of the donor, Nicole Ghez de Castellonovo of Switzerland, President of WIZO Switzerland Lucie Gideon, Chairman of the World WIZO Executive Helena Glasser, Rath Rapport of the Swiss WIZO Executive, representatives of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs and of the Modi'in District Council and members of the World WIZO Executive.

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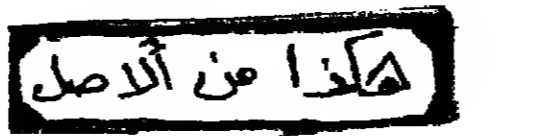
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Boy doing well after rare transplant of umbilical-cord blood

JUDY SIEGEL

AN 11-year-old Jerusalem boy suffering from the rare disorder adrenoleukodystrophy (ALD) — made famous by the film *Lorenzo's Oil* — has become the first Israeli patient to undergo a transplant of umbilical-cord blood from a non-related donor.

The blood, flown here frozen from the New York Blood Center, was transfused a month ago into Yonatan Davis of East Talpiot. He is recovering at Hadassah-University Hospital in Ein Kerem.

ALD, which occurs in one out of a million people, affects only boys. It causes the wasting away of the adrenal glands and widespread loss of a cell structure in the brain (cerebral demyelination).

Unless it can be halted, the result is progressive mental decay, loss of speech or understanding and blindness. There are about half a dozen cases in Israel.

The Davis family immigrated here from South Africa 10 years ago. Yonatan Davis was healthy until the age of nine, when doctors noted he had adrenal insufficiency.

ALD was diagnosed by his pediatrician, and he was given

"Lorenzo's oil" to keep in check the level of fatty acids in his blood.

Even though he has yet to suffer from any major symptoms, Hadassah doctors urged a bone-marrow transplant in the hip or an infusion of compatible umbilical-cord blood after his immune system was to be weakened by radiotherapy.

The umbilical cord contains stem cells, which induce the body to produce the substance necessary for proper adrenal functioning.

Since there was no match in the Davis family and among the 100 frozen samples at Hadassah's national umbilical-cord blood bank, its director, Dr. Arnon Nagler, sought a perfect match abroad.

One was found in New York, where 10,000 samples are stored. Kupat Holim Meuhedet fully covered the \$20,000 in expenses for the blood and a courier to bring it.

Nagler said yesterday that Davis, due to be discharged next week, was doing well.

Only 250 umbilical-cord blood transplants have occurred around the world, and fewer than four dozen involved unrelated donors.



Maccabi health fund director Shabtai Shavit delivers petitions demanding a change in the National Health Law to the Knesset yesterday. (Yitzhak Elhanan/Scoop 80)

Thousands petition MKs against health law

JUDY SIEGEL

IN an unprecedented demonstration, Maccabi health fund director Shabtai Shavit brought 58,744 petitions demanding that the National Health Insurance Law be radically changed to the Knesset yesterday.

Shavit, a former head of the Mossad, said the crates of paper represented 200,000 families. Shavit recently launched a much-publicized campaign, assisted by the Gitam/BDDO public relations company, to get the government to revamp the law, which went into effect nearly two years ago.

Any Maccabi member who went into a health fund branch in recent weeks has been asked (but not forced) to sign a petition. Members chose which MKs to address them to and, in the end, all 120 MKs received a box of petitions.

Maccabi's financial situation has suffered due to the law, which gives an extra share in health taxes to insurers with elderly members.

Being an insurer mostly of young families and individuals, Maccabi lost out compared to Kupat Holim Clalit and, less so, to the Leumit health fund.

Although residents can choose freely among health funds, the insurers cannot offer lower prices

and have to follow the dictates of the government, which in effect "nationalized" the health system, Shavit charges.

The Meuhedet health fund did not join Maccabi in yesterday's protest.

However, a spokeswoman said that it fully identifies with Shavit's action and has helped organize the sending of postcards to MKs in the past.

"We didn't join this petition effort because we don't have the necessary advertising budget," she said.

The Leumit health fund spokesman said it also supports the changes recommended by Shavit, but disapproved of the tactics.

"We are assertive but not aggressive," the spokesman said. "Our director-general constantly sends telegrams and letters to the ministers of health and finance, demanding changes in the law. But bringing crates of petitions to the Knesset is not a proper way to bring about changes."

Health Minister Yzahi Hanegbi himself has said the law requires important revisions, mainly due to the more than NIS 1 billion shortfall in health taxes and the need for regularly updating the basket of health services.

Cheeseburgers may disappear from the TV menu

GREER FAY CASHMAN

SEXUALLY suggestive commercials on Channel 2 have raised the ire of feminists, various women's organizations and a few religious groups, but by and large they remain on the air.

However, the cheeseburgers which the religious community finds offensive may disappear from the television menu.

Channel 2's Commercials

Committee has recommended that the commercials for McDonald's cheeseburgers be banned from the screen following a string of complaints from the religious community.

The most active opposition to the cheeseburger commercials has come from Haim Falk, chairman of the National Religious Party's Young Guard. Noting that cheese-

burgers directly contravene Jewish dietary laws, Falk has taken his complaints to the chief rabbis and to Education Minister Zevulun Hammer, who has parliamentary responsibility for Channel 2.

McDonald's spokeswoman in Israel, Irina Shalmon, has released

a statement saying that all hamburgers sold in McDonald's 30 branches here are made from kosher meat and that three of the branches are fully kosher.

The management of the hamburger chain, according to the statement, will do all within its power and all that the law allows it to do to prevent special interest groups from meddling in its business.

Another staff member noted yesterday that no complaint had been filed with McDonald's and the company learned about the problem only from media reports.

The source also pointed out that the Channel 2 Commercials Committee "has not made a decision, it has only made a recommendation."

Organ donor saves five lives

JUDY SIEGEL

SIX organs were transplanted yesterday into five patients in four hospitals around the country. All the recipients were doing well.

The donor of all the organs was a woman in her 40s from the center of the country who died at Ichilov Hospital in Tel Aviv.

A 65-year-old Beersheba man with a terminal coronary condition received the heart after waiting for a donor organ for a year. The operation was performed at Hadassah-University Hospital in Jerusalem's Ein Kerem and was its 34th heart transplant.

A 47-year-old man from a village in the Galilee Triangle received a lung at Sbeha Hospital at Tel Hasbomer.

A 43-year-old Tel Aviv resident who underwent a failed liver transplant in Paris several weeks ago received a second liver. Even though it was a repeated operation, the surgery took only seven hours and the liver soon began to function.

At Ichilov, a kidney and pancreas were transplanted into a 37-year-old father of three from Haifa who suffered from juvenile-onset diabetes.

Also at Ichilov, a 37-year-old mother of three who has been on dialysis due to complications of kidney stones, received a kidney.

A patient due to receive the donor's other lung died from hemorrhaging while being prepared for the surgery in Jerusalem.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Bill to bring Israeli convicts home
The Knesset Law Committee has approved a bill allowing Israeli prisoners abroad to serve their sentences in Israel, and foreign prisoners here to serve out their terms in their own countries.

The bill, which will now be sent to the plenum for a second and third reading, essentially adds Israel to the European Convention on this subject, which already includes 33 countries.

There are 162 Israelis known to be serving prison sentences abroad, but the real number is probably much higher, as many prisoners do not inform the Israeli consulate.

Evelyn Gordon

MK decries detainees' conditions
People who try to come to Israel but are stopped at the borders are held in appallingly crowded and dirty conditions, sometimes for months, Knesset State Control Committee chairman Ran Cohen (Meretz) charged yesterday.

Cohen, who recently toured the installations, said it is inconceivable that people who have never been accused of any crime should be treated in this way, and demanded that the government provide decent conditions for detainees.

Meanwhile, Interior Minister Eli Shussna told the committee that a ministerial committee is considering a number of ideas to reduce the lines at Ben-Gurion Airport, including having separate

lines at passport control for Israelis and tourists.

Evelyn Gordon

Gauguin, others at Israel Museum
A superb loan show of 120 paintings, drawings and prints by Paul Gauguin, Emil Bernard, Maurice Denis, Paul Serusier and 16 others painters of the Pont-Aven group went on view at the Israel Museum yesterday.

The Pont-Aven paintings by the above quartet are among the precursors of modern art. The exhibition, lent by an anonymous collector, will be on display for three months and is accompanied by an excellent English catalog.

Meir Ronnen

Paprika researchers win prize
Israel produces 40 percent of the world's paprika, it was announced yesterday, at a ceremony awarding the Kaplan Prize for Agriculture to three Volcani Institute researchers for developing improved strains of paprika that grow tall enough to be harvested by a combine, rather than by hand.

Last year, paprika exports totaled \$13 million. There is a greater demand for Israeli paprika than local farmers can supply, and the local version competes successfully with the famous Hungarian paprika.

Itim

Man held in murder of former roommate

RAINE MARCUS

A 19-YEAR-OLD man, the former roommate of 51-year-old Shmuel Olitzky, a civil servant who was brutally murdered and whose body was found in his Tel Aviv apartment several days later, was remanded for five days by Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court yesterday.

Olitzky's body was found on Monday night in the bathroom of his Dizengoff St. apartment. Police said he was a known homosexual and may have even advertised for the services of young men in the local newspapers.

Over the past few years, several homosexuals have been murdered for sexual or financial motives. Some murders have been solved, others still remain a mystery.

Yossi Friedman was arrested on Tuesday after police learned that the deceased had filed complaints against him for violent acts. Items belonging to Friedman were found in Olitzky's apartment. Yesterday police asked for the maximum 15-day remand, but Judge Ziva Herman detained Friedman for five days.

Friedman presented an alibi to the court and said that Olitzky habitually invited men to his apartment to conduct sexual relations with them, thus indicating that the victim could have been killed by one of several people.

Messianic Jews plan forest near Ariel

HAIM SHAPIRO

A GROUP of American messianic Jews is planning to plant a forest near Ariel, according to the group's newsletter.

The Messianic Jewish Alliance of America (MCAA) said in a recent news brief that it has raised funds to plant almost 7,000 trees, and needs to pay for only 3,000 more to plant a forest.

In the lead article, MCAA General-Secretary Joel Chernoff establishes a link between the tree planting and the messianic group's beliefs.

"These forests are not only a blessing to our Jewish brothers and sisters in Ariel right now, but will bless Yesuba when He returns," Chernoff writes.

He also says that he has spoken

the proposal even reached Israel. The Ariel project would have no connection with the UJA, Alexandroni said, because the UJA does not plant trees beyond the Green Line.

Yad LeAchim, a hardi anti-missionary organization, has written to National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon and Ariel Mayor Ron Nachman calling on them to cancel the project and saying that the MCAA is a missionary group which would utilize a sign saying that a forest had been planted by messianic Jews to achieve validity among Jews.

The Ariel spokesperson said yesterday that she knew nothing about the project.

often with the leaders of Ariel. "I have many times shared with them our deep appreciation and loving concern for the hard work they have invested in settling Judea and Samaria, despite having little encouragement from outside of Israel," Chernoff says in the article.

This is not the first attempt by messianic Jews to plant a forest in Israel. An earlier attempt was made to establish a forest through the Jewish National Fund. However, according to JNF spokesperson Bonnie Alexandroni, the project raised so much opposition in the US that it was cancelled there, before

Israel's own agony aunt has the answers



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Lebed denies plotting to take power in Russia

MOSCOW (Reuters) - Interior Minister Anatoly Kulikov, stepping up the war of words against his main political rival, yesterday accused security chief Alexander Lebed of plotting to use force to seize power in Russia.

"[Lebed] has decided to move ahead using force instead of waiting for the next presidential poll," Kulikov, Lebed's bitter political opponent, told a news conference.

"The question is what awaits Russia if Lebed comes to power through a creeping coup."

Lebed quickly dismissed the allegations and said he would sue Kulikov.

"There can be no talk of a mutiny," Lebed told Interfax news agency. Asked to explain Kulikov's charges, Lebed replied sarcastically: "The poor thing has got everything wrong."

Rumors of plots and potential coups d'etat are all too frequent in

Russia, alarming nervous financial markets abroad.

Tanks have appeared in Moscow twice in just over five years, once in August 1991, when hardliners tried to oust Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, and again in October 1993, when Russian President Boris Yeltsin tried to oust a new batch of hardliners holed up in the White House government building.

The RIA news agency, which is usually close to the Kremlin, said Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin had summoned intelligence chiefs and Russia's defense and interior ministers to a special meeting on today.

RIA said its sources had given no reason for the meeting and it was not clear if Lebed would attend. Chernomyrdin is in charge of coordinating the work of the so-called "power ministries" while Yeltsin prepares for heart surgery.

Lebed and Kulikov are involved in

a fierce Kremlin power struggle which has worsened since Yeltsin revealed on September 5 that he planned to go under the knife.

"Lebed is actively using his authority as Security Council secretary to create power structures reporting personally to him," Kulikov said.

"We have information that he is planning to go on vacation soon to prepare to use force on a local level," he said without giving details, adding that he had passed all details of the Lebed's activities to Chernomyrdin.

Inter-Tass news agency, quoting Lebed's press office, said Yeltsin had not yet decided how to react to Lebed's request for two weeks leave of absence.

The head of the Kremlin medical center, meanwhile, said doctors will operate on Yeltsin's heart in mid-November, dismissing concern over a blood problem which he said had now been solved.

"The operation on President Boris

Yeltsin's heart will be carried out as planned in the middle of November," Sergei Mironov was quoted as saying by Interfax.

Dismissing suggestions that the 65-year-old president had a blood problem which might rule out surgery, Mironov said: "There are no grounds for saying that Boris Yeltsin is inoperable."

Yeltsin was shown on television yesterday holding talks with Belarus President Alexander Lukashenko at the Barvinka sanatorium outside Moscow where he is preparing for the surgery.

His face appeared puffy, and he spoke slowly when greeting Lukashenko in the heavily-edited clip. But he was later shown raising his voice to make a point in his characteristically robust manner.

Lukashenko spoke to reporters after the 40-minute meeting but did not mention the Kremlin leader's health.

Afghan warlord holds talks with Taleban minister

MAZAR-I-SHARIF, Afghanistan - Afghanistan's powerful northern warlord Gen. Abdul Rashid Dostum held peace talks with a Taleban government minister yesterday, Afghan sources said.

They said Dostum's meeting with Taleban's acting foreign minister Mullah Mohammad Ghaus was also attended by Pakistani Interim Minister Naseerullah Babar and Shi'ite Moslem Hezb-i-Wahdat faction leader Karim Khalili.

Taleban forces backed by armor, meanwhile, occupied the strategic Bagram highway junction north of Kabul and immediately drew a barrage of rocket fire from retreating troops of the ousted Kabul government, witnesses said.

Five people were killed and another 10 were wounded in fighting around the Bagram military airfield, hospital staff in Charikar said.

"The Taleban are in the junction and we are firing rockets at them from several positions," Mirabbudin Astans, an assistant to

Ahmad Shah Masood, military chief of the ousted government, confirmed in Jabal os-Siraj late in the day.

Trucks carrying heavily armed troops loyal to Masood were seen speeding south towards Bagram junction along with several of his tanks in the late afternoon.

Charikar, which had been bustling in the morning, was a ghost-town by then, with virtually every shop shuttered and a large exodus of civilians in overcrowded vehicles and by foot.

The expected push south towards Kabul from the Bagram junction by Masood's forces has so far failed to materialize, and instead those troops have found themselves surprised by a Taleban advance north.

Unidentified warplanes, presumably Taleban, bombed strategically important Jabal os-Siraj for a second successive day, narrowly missing a command post from which Masood sometimes operates, witnesses said.

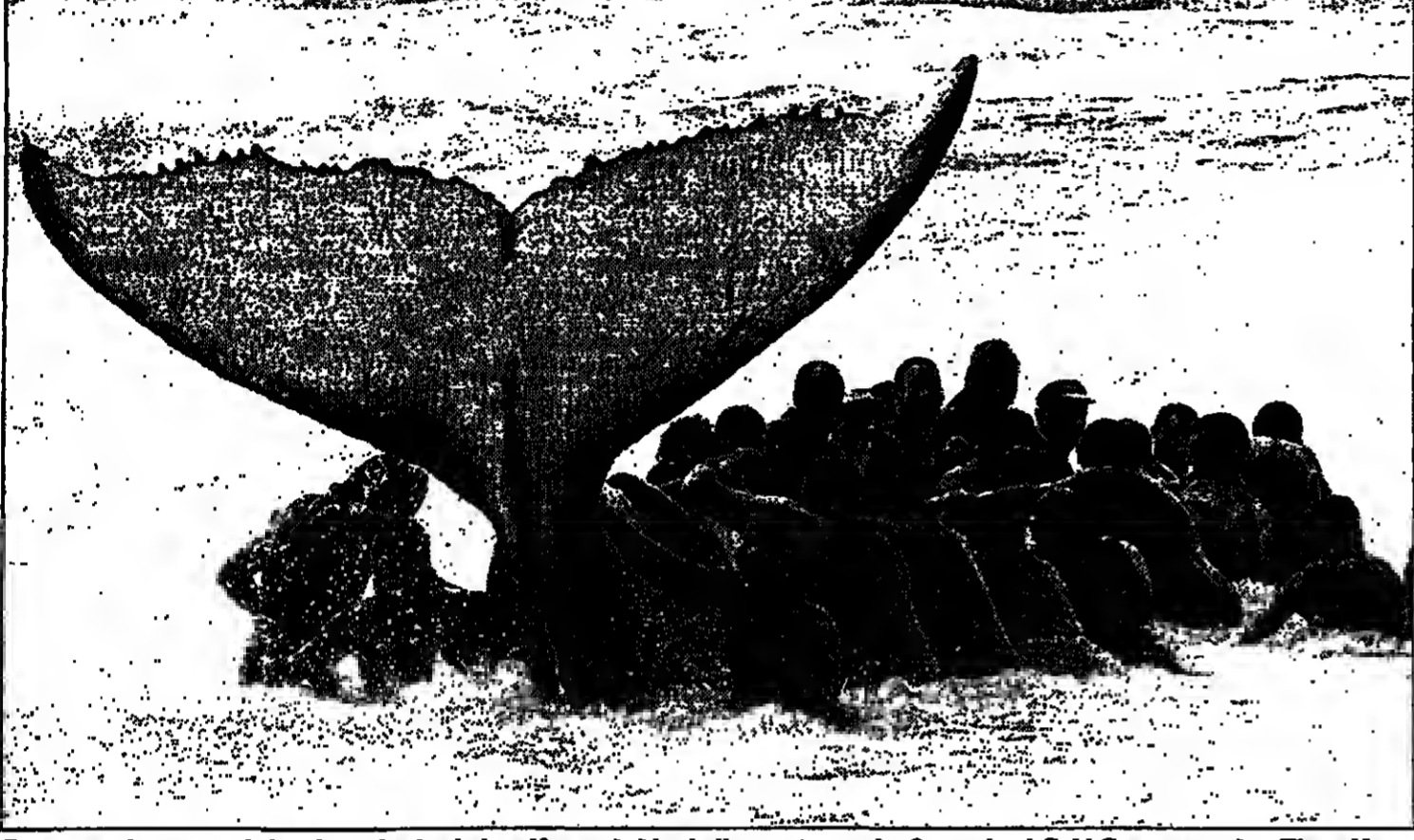
The sound of jets approaching triggered frantic anti-aircraft fire as truck-mounted guns around the area attempted to bring the attackers down. One bomb landed harmlessly in a field near Masood's command post and another damaged a house in the area.

Jabal os-Siraj sits 90 km. north of Kabul astride the main highway linking the capital to northern Afghanistan.

Masood's office yesterday issued an ultimatum to the Taleban, essentially warning them to withdraw from Kabul or face the consequences.

At the UN, Afghanistan's ousted government offered an immediate cease-fire with the Taleban if it evacuates Kabul and agrees to talks on a political settlement.

Speaking to the Security Council, the foreign minister of the Rabhani government, Abdul Rahim Ghafoorzi, claimed loyalist forces had reached the gates of Kabul but are holding back to avoid civilian casualties.



Rescue workers try to help a humpback whale calf stranded in shallow water on the Queensland Gold Coast yesterday. The calf was successfully towed out to deeper water after a seven-hour operation. It was dragged into shallow water after swimming into a shark net with its mother. (Reuters)

Britain announces sweeping gun ban

LONDON (Reuters) - Britain yesterday unveiled plans for some of the strictest gun laws in the world, banning the majority of handguns in response to the Dunblane massacre when a loner shot dead 16 young children and their teacher.

Scottish Secretary Michael Forsyth told parliament the government would present legislation that would ban at least 80 percent of Britain's 200,000 legally held handguns. The only handguns Britons would be allowed are single-shot .22 caliber weapons, widely used in shooting competitions. They would have to be held under lock and key at gun clubs, which would have to meet stringent new security standards.

Interior Minister Michael Howard said the new regulations could become law before Christmas if other parties cooperated. "The country expects nothing less," he said.

Forsyth, whose own parliamentary constituency includes Dunblane, was presiding over the findings of an inquiry into the massacre carried out by a senior judge, Lord Douglas Cullen.

Cullen had recommended more modest curbs, including a requirement to keep handguns at gun clubs and not at home.

But Prime Minister John Major, with a majority of just two in the 651-seat Commons, was advised that he risked defeat unless he went much further.

A petition organized by Dunblane parents for a total ban on handguns has collected 750,000 signatures and helped persuade the opposition Labor Party to back complete prohibition.

Police welcomed the announcement. "The gun lobby for too long have enjoyed the privilege of their 'sport' whilst ignoring the vast majority of people's abhorrence of the sheer firepower of modern weapons," the Police Superintendents' Association said.

Iranian president meets Saddam's envoy

TEHERAN (Reuters) - Iranian President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani met an envoy of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein amid mounting tension over charges of Iranian intervention in northern Iraq, the official news agency IRNA said yesterday.

It said Rafsanjani received the unnamed envoy on Tuesday.

"The Iraqi envoy voiced Iraq's desire for good neighborly relations with Iran and for expansion of mutual relations. He also called for cooperation and exchange of views between the two countries' on regional issues," IRNA said.

Rafsanjani "also underscored the importance of good neighborly relations between the two countries," IRNA added.

The visit, a rare event in the relation between the former war foes, came amid repeated Iraqi accusation of Iranian interference in Iraq's northern Kurdish areas.

In Baghdad, Iraqi Culture and Information Minister Hamed Youssef Hummadi accused Iran of meddling in northern Iraq and urged Teheran to steer away from fighting between rival Kurdish factions.

Iran has denied earlier charges by Massoud Barzani, leader of the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP), that Iranian forces entered northern Iraq to help the rival Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) retake a key city on Sunday.

Baghdad has said its intrusion in Kurdish northern Iraq in late August, which helped the KDP capture the Kurdish capital Arbil, was aimed at backing the KDP against the PUK and Iran.

The PUK, meanwhile said 6,000 of its fighters are gathering in the Barisan Valley 70 km. northeast of Arbil, near a strategic road into the city.

The group has wrested control of other main roads to Arbil, to the south and east, from the KDP.

"We have two roads going to Arbil and we are getting close to the third," senior PUK leader Kosrat Rassoul told Reuters.

He declined to say whether his forces would attack Arbil, a city of some 800,000 people.

Egypt says it killed militants who massacred Greek tourists in Cairo

CAIRO (Reuters) - Egyptian authorities said police yesterday shot dead four Moslem militants linked to the massacre of 18 Greek tourists outside a Cairo hotel earlier this year.

The Interior Ministry said one policeman was killed and another injured in the eight-hour gun battle with the al-Gama'a al-Islamiya militants in fields outside the southern village of Nazlet el-Badraman, about 240 km. south of Cairo.

The ministry's statement said police had chased the militants south, following a trail of bullets that matched those which killed the 18 Greeks outside the Europa Hotel in April.

The Gama'a claimed responsibility for the shooting at the time, saying it had mistaken them for a group of Israeli tourists.

"The cartridges used in several recent incidents in Minya matched the bullets used in the

Europa incident and they also matched two submachine guns found earlier this year with another member of the group," the statement said.

"The [militants'] descriptions fit those given by the eyewitnesses at the Europa incident," it added.

Four gunmen and their driver carried out the April attack, by far the bloodiest by the Gama'a during its four-year-old struggle to overthrow the government and transform Egypt into a strict Islamic state.

Earlier, security sources in the south said two other policemen and a passer-by were also injured in the clash between the 400-strong police force and the militants.

The sources said Ismail Abdallah Ismail was among the militants shot dead and the ministry confirmed he was a leader of a southern fac-

tion of the Gama'a and wanted in connection with 22 attacks.

They said Ismail was a former policeman and the police force found a stolen police pistol, four automatic rifles, and other weapons while combing the fields after the battle. They also found a large amount of ammunition and several documents detailing the group's escape plans.

The sources said police had rushed to the fields early yesterday with two armored personnel carriers, after a tip-off that the militants were hiding there.

The gunmen saw them coming and hid in the palm trees, killing policeman Salamah Ghoneim and wounding the other two. The police then fired at the tree tops, sending the bodies of the four militants tumbling to the ground.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Swedish fighter crashes near Russian navy ship
STOCKHOLM (AP) - A Swedish military jet that was scouting one of Russia's most sophisticated naval vessels crashed into the Baltic Sea yesterday.

The crash occurred about 120 km. southeast of the Swedish island of Gotland, the Swedish military said. The fate of the pilot was not immediately known.

The plane crashed near the *Pyotr Veliky*, a nuclear-powered guided-missile cruiser, Swedish military spokesman Owe Wagermark told the Swedish news agency TT. The Russian navy said in a statement that the plane hit the water about 700 meters from the ship.

The jet, a Swedish-made Viggen, was a radar-equipped reconnaissance plane that was accompanying another plane photographing the ship, Wagermark said.

Ransom recovered, 5 held in German kidnap
WIESBADEN (Reuters) - German police have recovered DM 4 million in ransom money paid to the kidnappers of multi-millionaire Jakob Fiszmann and have arrested five people, prosecutors said yesterday.

But a spokesman for the prosecutors' office said it is not known whether the Frankfurt businessman, one of Germany's richest men, who was kidnapped on October 1, is still alive.

The spokesman said police had arrested three German men and two women in connection with the kidnapping. He said that despite searches there is still no indication as to where Fiszmann is.

The suspects, aged between 26 and 51, had in part confessed to the crime, prosecutor Reiner Schilling told a news conference. One of the women had worked on Fiszmann's property firm for 10 years.

Disputed Ulster parade set for Saturday
BELFAST (Reuters) - The mayor of Londonderry vowed yesterday to take part in a disputed Protestant march on Saturday, despite fears it might inflame sectarian tension.

Richard Dallas said he hoped to be in the Apprentice Boys parade around the walls of Northern Ireland's second city, which was rerouted in August when sectarian violence swept the province because of Protestant marches.

Police said they are considering a request by the Apprentice Boys group to hold their postponed march along the walls, which overlook the Roman Catholic, Irish nationalist Bogside area of the city.

Dallas, a member of the pro-British Ulster Unionist party, said he is confident the march would be permitted and doubted whether its organizers would hold talks with Bogside residents who want to discuss the route.

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מלון מן אלאל

Back to boots

FLAIR GREER FAY CASHMAN

NOW that the rains have come, it's farewell to sandals and shoes made from vulnerable fabrics. It's back to boots and closed sturdy shoes - often with crepe or rubber tractor soles.

Non-slippery soles and heels are important in Israel at any time, since pavements in most parts of the country are far from user-friendly; but during the rainy season, it is doubly important to wear the kind of footwear which will help you to maintain your balance.

Many young people were wearing boots throughout the summer, so style-wise, there's not much change for them except that they might decide to swap their ankle and mid-calf boots for knee-highs.

More conservative people who wouldn't dream of wearing boots in summer regardless of what's in vogue, will find that the new season's boots are much lighter than those that may look heavy but are surprisingly lightweight and very comfortable considering that many of the varieties now on the market have platform soles.

The granny-boot look with laces all the way is often a bit of a fake. The laces never need to be tied or untied because the boot has either a hidden zip or inserts of stretch fabric.

Highly visible zips are also in



Highly visible zips are in fashion, as is the case for this Teva Naot gaiter-style shoe.

fashion as are buckles and cross straps, but few of the boots currently on display in local shops could be described as chic.

There's a strange perversity about wearing inelegant boots and shoes with classically elegant suits. But then again, elegance is in the eye of the beholder, and currently the beholder has many more choices than were available at the beginning of the decade.

Local manufacturers, such as Teva Naot, have to fight hard to

compete with imports from France, Italy, Germany, Spain, England, the US, South America and more recently China, especially since prices of imports have become more affordable.

The most popular colors are black, navy blue and shades of brown and burgundy. Occasionally, one sees vibrant hues, but more often as trimming than as an all-over color.

Prices start at around NIS 169 per pair and move up to over NIS 2,000.

As someone with an irrational fear of government bureaucrats in positions of power, I am perfect bait for airport officials. Trained like watchdogs to smell suspicious behavior, customs officers never let me by without interrogation, which on more than one occasion has led to my having to reveal the contents of my suitcases, before being shooed along with the innocent passenger.

But, am I technically "innocent"? According to the regulations specified in the Customs Guide for the Traveler Returning From Abroad, issued by the Office of Customs and VAT, I am somewhat of a smuggler. Apparently, however, even customs employees look the other way when the taxable items are not electric, electronic, or in unusually large quantities.

The following applies to residents of Israel returning from abroad after a stay of over two weeks and under two years:

If you plan on taking equipment such as a video camera, a fax machine, a lap-top computer, etc. with you on your trip abroad, contact the customs official in the departure area to receive a confirmation document. Upon your return to the country, go through the red lane (for passengers with goods to declare), and present the document to the customs clerk. Failure to undergo this procedure may lead to having to pay customs on such items after re-entering the country.

Duty-free goods beyond a certain limit are also taxable. Duty-free parcels will be labeled with either a green or a red sticker, indicating whether items must be declared or

CAVEAT EMPTOR! RUTHIE BLUM

not. Furthermore, duty-free merchandise is taken into account when calculating the overall amount you are allowed to spend on goods ("gifts") while abroad.

Every passenger above the age of two is allowed up to \$200 worth of "gifts," exempt from customs duty. Families may not "add up" the exemptions of each member to enable them to bring in an item costing over this amount. However, exemptions on what the guide refers to as "alcoholic cosmetics" (i.e. perfume and cologne) are separate, and any amount under 400 ml is exempt, as are other toiletries, clothing (except for fur), and shoes of varying types and amounts which the customs clerks deem reasonable.

Within the \$200 limit are included up to three kilos of food items, as long as the weight of each item does not exceed one kilo. Every traveler aged 17 years and above is exempt from customs on up to one liter of hard liquor and up to two liters of wine, as well as up to 250 grams of tobacco, or 250 cigarettes.

Upon entering the country, you must decide whether to go through the red lane or the green. Going through the green lane does not guarantee that you won't end up having to pay customs. On the contrary, if you are caught with taxable items in the green lane, you will also have to pay a fine, or be arrested (depending on the goods and/or amount). Beware: even if you have a receipt for an

item purchased abroad for under the \$200 limit, you will still be required to pay customs if the price listed on the customs chart for the said item is higher than the amount you paid for it abroad.

If you are unsure about which lane to enter, you are supposed to go through the red and ask for assistance. At ports where the green/red system is not in effect, you must submit an affidavit to the customs official.

Items requiring permission from different government ministries prior to their entry into Israel are: animals (Ministry of Agriculture); fresh meat (Ministry of Agriculture); weapons (Ministry of the Interior); plants (Ministry of Agriculture); pharmaceuticals (Ministry of Health); broadcasting equipment (Ministry of Communications); Bezeq-related equipment - e.g. answering machines, faxes, modems, etc. (Ministry of Communications); and cell-phones (Ministry of Communications).

Finally, the following items are forbidden altogether: counterfeit coins and documents; pin-ball machines; drugs; and publications which include pornographic material.

For further information, contact the Israel Customs Bureau in your area. To complain or to appeal, contact the ombudsman at the main office of Customs and VAT, Rehov Agron 32, Jerusalem; Tel.: (02) 670-3333; fax: (02) 625-8602.

You are invited to offer personal stories about goods and services in this country. Write to: Ruthie Blum, POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem.

Americans just keep getting fatter

FOR the first time, overweight people outnumber normal-size ones in the United States, according to the latest government statistics, released this week.

The reasons are not entirely clear. Katherine Flegal of the National Center for Health Statistics in Hyattsville, Maryland, who outlined the data, said many small reductions in physical activity might be to blame.

She noted the development of the TV remote control, which keeps people planted on the couch all evening, and fear of crime, which gives them another reason to stay inside.

"It's just eating too much," contended Dr. Albert Stunkard of the University of Pennsylvania. "Physical activity hasn't increased enough to make up for it."

Whatever the reason, the latest figures show just how fat the country has gotten. US government guidelines suggest that people should keep their body mass indexes under 25. Anything more than that is too much.

Body mass index, or BMI, is quickly becoming the standard way of talking about obesity, since it is an easy way to compare the fatness of people of different heights. BMI is body weight in kilograms divided by height in meters squared. A 163-cm woman who weighs 65 kilograms has a BMI of 25.

The National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, conducted on 30,000 people between 1991 and 1994, shows that 59 percent of American men and 49 percent of women have BMIs over 25. Ten years earlier, 51

percent of men and 41 percent of women were this heavy.

Flegal presented the figures at a meeting of the North American Association for the Study of Obesity. "It's been clear for several years that Americans are getting fatter, and it's accelerating. That's troubling," said Dr. Tim Byers of the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center.

People in their 50s are the fattest. The survey found that 73 percent of men and 64 percent of women this age have BMIs over 25. However, the survey also found overweight increasing among pre-teen children, too.

Extreme obesity is also becoming more common. The survey found 2 percent of men and 4 percent of women have BMIs over 40 - double the rate a decade ago. A 163-cm woman with a BMI of 40

weighs 104 kilos.

While a BMI of 25 is probably not particularly bad, experts say significant health problems begin to emerge when BMIs hit 27. That's 70.3 kilos for the 163-cm woman.

Flegal noted, however, that some weight-related health risks do not appear to be rising with Americans' increasing weights. The survey shows that cholesterol levels are falling, and blood pressure appears to be holding steady or dropping slightly. On the other hand, the statistics suggest that diabetes, which is also closely related to weight, may be increasing.

While there is no universally accepted definition of obesity, some experts call it a BMI of 30 or more. This is 79.4 kilos for the 163-cm woman. (AP)

Hosting dinner parties keeps the stress level up

MANY Americans find hosting a dinner party at home as stressful as preparing income-tax returns or visiting the dentist, according to a poll released on Tuesday.

A Gallup organization survey showed that would-be dinner hosts particularly dislike the shopping, food preparation and planning for the event. The poll also said that many are insecure about their cooking skills.

When asked to compare the stress of preparing a dinner party, 34 percent of the participants found preparing taxes as stressful, 31 percent likened the stress to going to the dentist, and 20 percent said it was akin to having their mother-in-law visit for the weekend.

The poll measuring attitudes regarding entertaining friends at

home was conducted on behalf of the maker of the dinner-party game *Sir Crazy!*

The survey showed 29 percent of respondents see pre-party work such as shopping as their least favorite part of hosting a dinner, while 21 percent regret preparing the food and 17 percent dread overall preparation.

Of the 1,000 adults surveyed, 54 percent said they just do not have enough time to pull off a great dinner party.

The respondents said that what they liked best about hosting a dinner party was having a good time with friends.

And as for the most important ingredient of a good dinner party: 31 percent said good guests, 26 percent cited good conversation and 20 percent said good food. (Reuters)

A green light to lovemaking

A revolutionary traffic-light system which tells couples when they can make love without the risk of pregnancy could make major inroads into the market for condoms and the pill, its makers claim on Monday.

Unipath, part of Anglo-Dutch consumer giant Unilever, said its new Persona monitoring kit will tell women exactly when they risk getting pregnant, by testing the hormones contained in urine.

"The monitor will indicate a green light when a woman is free to make love without using a contraceptive and a red light on the days on which she is at risk of becoming pregnant," Unipath said.

The company claimed 95 percent reliability for the kit, about the same as for condoms but below the 99 to 100 percent security offered by the pill. (Reuters)

Band-Aid at 75: A cut above the rest

IT'S a simple story: Man meets woman, woman suffers cut, man invents wildly successful medical product.

Billions of cuts and scrapes later, the Band-Aid is celebrating its 75th birthday.

According to Band-Aid lore, the adhesive bandage was created in 1920 by Earle E. Dickson, an employee at a Johnson and Johnson cotton mill in New Jersey. Dickson had fretted as his wife, Josephine, cut herself again and again while working in the kitchen. One day while he was wrapping one of her wounds with a bulky bandage of gauze and tape, he was struck by an idea. He put some gauze on a strip of medical tape and the Band-Aid was born.

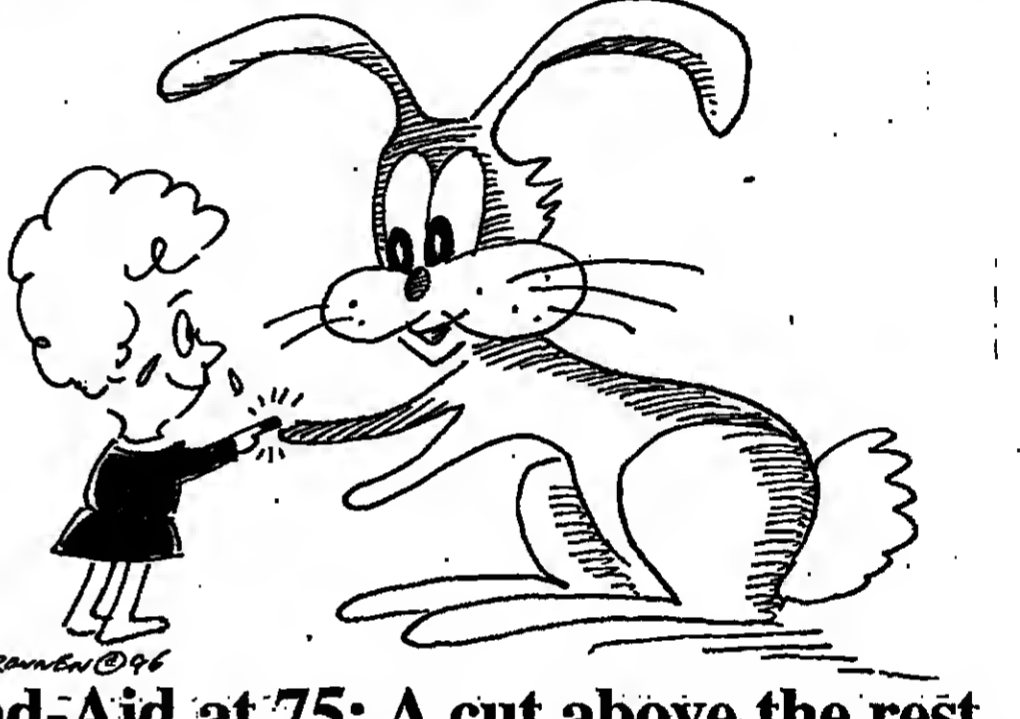
Johnson and Johnson began producing Band-Aids in 1921, but they were far from an instant success - they came in long strips that users had to cut themselves. By the time the company began selling pre-cut Band-Aids in 1924, sales took off. "The Band-Aid is just one of these wonderful, simple, useful, inexpensive, effective inventions," said Dr. S. Michael Marcy, a member of the American Academy of Pediatrics' committee on infectious diseases.

Doctors praise adhesive bandages for keeping wounds clean and providing a good environment for healing. They hold skin together; keep it moist; prevent it from cracking and provide padding for the wound, Marcy said. Just one minor problem. "If they could only figure out a way to make them eas-

Band-Aid at 75: A cut above the rest

ier to open," he said. "You always end up - using your teeth or something." Not content with tooting their medical benefits, Johnson and Johnson officials gleefully promote Band-Aids' usefulness in automotive repairs. They claim a man once used a Band-Aid to patch a leaky car radiator. Riley even tells the hard-to-believe story of a man using one to patch a flat tire until he could make it to a gas station.

Over the last 75 years, the company has sold about 205 billion bandages. Now there are water-resistant sports strips, flexible-fabric strips, extra-large bandages for big wounds and stretchy bandages that let knuckles bend. To maintain a beachhead in the ruthlessly competitive children's market, Band-Aids come adorned with Sesame Street characters, glow-in-the-dark colors and colorful patterns. Competing brands tempt children with Bugs Bunny, the Mighty Morphin Power Rangers and Disney characters. "The child keeps the Band-Aid in place because he wants to keep looking at the picture, and for some reason it makes it hurt a little bit less," said Dr. Paula Prezioso, a clinical assistant professor of pediatrics at New York University Medical Center. "I'm constantly amazed after giving an injection. When I put the Band-Aid on, the crying stops." After watching countless children crinkle their noses and turn away as he removes a Band-Aid to reveal a nasty-looking wound, Marcy has become convinced Band-Aids serve an important psychological function by masking an injury. (News agencies)



BARGAIN BASEMENT

A large classified advertisement section titled 'BARGAIN BASEMENT' containing numerous listings for various items such as electronics, furniture, books, and household goods. It includes sub-sections like 'OFFERS', 'PETS', and 'WANTED'.

OFFERS GENERAL ELECTRIC DRYER - large size, needs repair, NIS 200 o.b.o. 02-523-3418. ELECTRIC WEEDEER - Black & Decker, NIS 300. 09-544816. SEWING MACHINE - never used, NIS 300. 03-544-3460. GENERAL ELECTRIC WASHING MACHINE - heavy duty, strong working, looking for good home, NIS 300. 04-823-5270. COLOR TV - 26", Salora, NIS 300. 04-984-1652. BABY STROLLER - 2 parts, lightweight, baby car seat, baby bath, good condition, all for NIS 300. 03-642-1789. RIDING BOOTS - leather-lined, size 37, NIS 60; riding hat, small size 56, NIS 60 - both in excellent condition. 09-774-6242. STROLLER - good condition, lightweight, NIS 180. 03-641-9612. LPs - about 70 mixed, NIS 75 o.b.o. 04-825-8726. COMPUTER PROGRAM FOR INTERNET - multilingual "Accent" for Web, E-mail, etc., new, NIS 200. 02-993-3873. HAMSTER CAGE - accessories and food, NIS 65. 02-586-3371. LITTLE TYKES SUPER COUPE CAR - NIS 125; Little Tykes Play Kitchen, NIS 125; both in good condition. 02-651-1935. MUSICIAN MAGAZINE - 11 issues, late '95 - late '96. NIS 50 o.b.o. 02-643-3583. DIGITAL ANSWERING MACHINE - NIS 120; electric salad maker, NIS 75; both immaculate, including manuals. 02-656-5586. AT&T UNIX LIVE PRINTER - NIS 290. 02-656-0103. PEREGO RED STROLLER - excellent condition, NIS 300; Hush Puppy winter shoes, new, size 20-21. 02-532-2522. PANASONIC DOT MATRIX PRINTER - NIS 350. 02-563-8043. CROCKPOT - 220 V, new or in excel-

lent condition, large. 02-566-1002. NS. AMERICAN SUITCASE - on wheels, excellent condition, NIS 100; Krups coffee maker, with 3 large cans of American coffee and filters, NIS 150. 02-642-3331. MAGAZINES - Good Housekeeping and others, NIS 5 each; Black and Decker mounting book, best for latest cover, NIS 120 o.b.o. 02-651-8902. ARCHITECTS' DRAWING BOARD - 74 x 108 cm, and mahogany T-square to match, excellent condition, NIS 250. 02-566-4315. 2 CLOSETS - almost new, NIS 350. 02-566-0815. 1985 BASEBALL ENCYCLOPEDIA - 2700 pages, NIS 30. 02-566-0941. 8 MM MOVIE CAMERA - good condition, needs transformer, NIS 150. 02-582-2840. 4 PR. WHITE SHEER CURTAINS - NIS 100 each pair; 2-drawer file cabinet, wood, NIS 75. 02-532-5860. BABY CAR CHAIR - NIS 50; 6 rolls of embossed wallpaper, 6 NIS per roll; large jerry can, perfect for camping, NIS 100. 02-534-8182. FOLDING DINING TABLE - pine/wood, 70 x 135, brand new, NIS 350. 02-624-9261. COMPUTER 1989 - with keyboard, excellent condition, NIS 300 o.b.o. 02-534-1947 or 566-0404. SINGLE BED - good condition, NIS 130; white chest of 4 drawers, as new, NIS 130; Moulinex blender, excellent, NIS 90. 02-563-2595. CROSS COUNTRY SKIER/ROWING MACHINE - by Lifestyle, excellent condition, NIS 350. 02-656-0103. CABINET FOR STEREO SET - 4 shelves, adjustable, 60x46x107 cm, good condition, NIS 150 o.b.o. Graco Towelcaddy II, baby walker, NIS 30 o.b.o. 02-673-2871. NS. WALKING SHOES - beige, ladies', size 39, NIS 75. 02-561-7034. NIKE AIR - size 44, new, NIS 300. 02-585-8993. HERMAN STRUK - autographed, printed picture of East European Jews, NIS 350. 02-651-3741.

10 OPERA RECORDS - NIS 100; single bed, NIS 150. 02-585-0113. BASEBALL CARD COLLECTION - 100 cards from '70s and '80s, mint condition, NIS 350. 02-561-8319. NS. 6 AMERICAN DRESSES - small and medium sizes, like new, NIS 55 each. 02-566-0847. NS. ANSWERING MACHINE - new, in box, NIS 200. 02-561-8319. NS. SMALL CABINET - open, 2 shelves, 1/2 x 1/2 m, NIS 100; children's computer, educational, fun and exciting, new in box, NIS 250. 02-651-1763. NS. SOFA BED - NIS 150; black bamboo and black beehive, new, NIS 200. 02-656-0103. CHEST OF DRAWERS - 115x80x42 cm, NIS 100; 4 bookshelves, 80x24 cm, NIS 125; kitchen cabinet, 117x56x35 cm, NIS 50; kitchen table, NIS 75. 02-999-1976. RADIO-CASSETTE PLAYER - Panasonic #110, NIS 200; answering machine, Panasonic, NIS 100. 02-566-1469. AMCOR TWIN 400 - oven/broiler, 1 1/2 x 1 1/2 ft., NIS 350. 02-673-2223. ENGLISH TEACHING MATERIAL - ALS - self-teaching games, charts, NIS 200; women's sports shoes, never worn, 37-38 from France, NIS 150. 02-643-8298. ROLLERBLADES - size 41/42, NIS 50; girls' LA Gear, white sneakers with lights, size 35.5, new, NIS 160; LA Gear, white size 37, NIS 140. 02-651-3654. NS. WRIST WEIGHTS - adjustable, NIS 50; The Club, car theft protection, NIS 100; walking cane/chair, NIS 65. 02-656-0103. VACUUM CLEANER - NIS 200; crockpot, NIS 75; Sansone suitcase, NIS 30; 2 wall clocks, NIS 20 each. 02-625-0562. NS. DYER'S HARPUN GUN - new, NIS 200; diver's knife, new, NIS 70; Windows, keyboard, NIS 80. 02-652-4638. MOTOROLA CELLULAR ACCESSORY KITS - NIS 120 o.b.o. 02-993-2126.

PANASONIC DOT MATRIX PRINTER - with Hebrew, NIS 250. 02-993-2704. BACH FLOWER REMEDIES - 40-bottle set of mother extracts for professional use, NIS 350 o.b.o. 02-585-9591, leave message. USED KITCHENWARE - Stoneware dinner service for 6, NIS 75; Corningware pizza, NIS 30 each; assorted utensils, NIS 10 each. 02-673-2247. FAX MODEM - 14,400, NIS 200. 02-642-4457. FAX PRINTER - 2 new rolls, 2 1/2", wide, 1 1/2" high, NIS 15; 4 big bags of clothes, good condition, clean, 12 year-old girl and big woman's, from USA, free. 02-652-6761, after 5 pm. 2 YOUTH SLEEPING BAGS - NIS 50 each; Sega TV games and 2 cassettes, NIS 250. 02-676-2846, evenings. ELECTRIC TYEWREITER - excellent condition, NIS 60; fancy dress, size 12, NIS 150. 02-537-2394. PLASTIC HANGERS FOR SUITS - NIS 2 each; fax machine, needs good repair, FREE. 02-623-4255. INK CARTRIDGES - black and color, for Canon BJC 600/610 Printer, NIS 25. 02-993-2817. NS. ROLLERBLADES - size 40, like new, NIS 90. 02-534-3026. TWIN STROLLER - MacLaren, NIS 300. 02-676-4105. NS. SOFA BED - NIS 350. 02-673-3836. ROLLER BLADES - American size 5, excellent condition, including knee and elbow guards, NIS 175; girls' BMX bike, good condition, NIS 175. 02-581-5079. PANASONIC TELEPHONE ANSWERING MACHINE - message retrieval from push-button phone, NIS 150. 02-536-3560. NS. COLOR TELEVISION - 24", NIS 350. 050-579898.

knapsack or backpack for hikes. 02-642-1243. NS. GAS FIRE - rag doll, toys, Lego, puzzles, for cash. 09-528983, Cecil. OLD FAX & TYPEWRITER - English, Yosef, 08-924-7891. OLD CHRONICLES - in good condition, to buy, Joseph, 08-924-7891. HEAVY DUTY MIXER - accessories not necessary, small freezer/piano bench or stool. 03-960-6619. NS. WASHING MACHINE - used Maytag in good working condition. 03-532-0020. PING-PONG TABLE - wanted urgently, good condition. 03-739-8321. SOMEONE GOING TO KENYA - willing to take bag of clothing for African family to Nairobi or Nakuru. 02-563-0014. CD ROM - for Gan Harmony. 02-651-9929. COMPUTER PRINTER - new or second-hand. 02-651-4206. NS. DOG HOUSE - for rabbit who lives on our back porch - winter is coming. 02-673-8910. CHESS TEACHER/PARTNER - sought for motivated 6-year-old who already plays. German Colony area. 02-561-2297. BOX FOR WEDDING DRESS - or information about storing a wedding dress. 02-563-0396. FELDERM-TYPE CHILDREN'S BOOKS - fiction, good condition, to buy, for J.E.L.L.Y. 02-673-3410, evenings. NS. SMALL & CHEAP ANTENNA - for small & cheap TV, cabinet for Singer sewing machine. 02-533-3211. PIANO BENCH - inexpensive barbecue grill. 02-652-6761, after 5 pm. MATERNITY CLOTHES - to buy, for petite 5 ft. new immigrant. 02-993-2331. NS. STYROFOAM PELLETS - to fill bean-bag chair, nursing pillow for twins. 02-585-9539. NS. MULTI-SYSTEM VCR - in very good condition. 02-585-9196. NS. SOFA BED - in excellent condition. 02-566-2982.

FRENCH LANGUAGE - book & tape for autodidact. 02-566-5923. BOOKS IN RUSSIAN - on any subject, for library of Russian club. Alcor, 02-672-1548. NS. "PERFIDY" - interested in purchasing copy of Ben Hecht's classic. 02-623-5141. MOUNTAIN BIKE - used. 02-671-0020. REMEMBER THAT ELECTRIC GUITAR - you brought to Israel and then packed away? I'm interested. 02-586-5514. NS. OVEN AND GAS RANGE - 02-643-8258. STOREROOM FOR OLIM - seeks electrical appliances, household goods (pots, pans, dishes, etc.), old furniture, etc. Sun - Thurs, 10 am - 4 pm, Fri. 10 am - 1 pm, 24 Ha'aman St., Talpiot, 02-796848. KEREN KLITA - seeks furniture for new olim, will collect. 02-788277. NS.

PETS LARGE SELECTION - of beautiful, loving, healthy, housetrained kittens, some vaccinated. Free to good homes. 02-628-3521. NS. PETS - 2 adorable 2-month-old puppies, free to good homes. 02-997-1160. NS. GERMAN SHEPHERD PUPPY - wanted. 02-995-1643. NS. SMALL SHORTHAIR DOG - black, 1 year old, friendly and gentle, free to good home. 02-536-3128. FOLDING DOG - good, free. 02-534-3391. TWO 5-MONTH-OLD KITTENS - sleek, soft, super affectionate, seek home. 02-623-1917. MALE SIAMESE KITTEN - with papers, wanted. 02-652-4638. WEEK-OLD TABBY KITTENS - silver-striped, limar and outdoor-trained, used to dogs. 02-641-1242.

Sorry, no listings accepted without a coupon BARGAIN BASEMENT - FREE CLASSIFIEDS BARGAIN BASEMENT accepts ads of up to 20 words free of charge on these conditions: Only one ad per household per week. The limit per ad in the 'offers' section is a TOTAL of NIS 300, and the price of each item must be stated in shokles. The following ads are NOT accepted: business offers; apartment sales, rentals or exchanges; car sales; job offers; situations wanted; solicitations for donations; offers of marriage or other personal relationships. Ads must be printed in English and submitted on the attached coupon. ADS MAY NOT BE SUBMITTED BY PHONE OR FAX. The right to reject or edit any ad is reserved. Ads must reach The Bazaar Basement, The Jerusalem Post, Rehov Yirmiyahu in Romema (POB 81, Jerusalem 91 000) by MONDAY of the week of publication. Because of space limitations, ads may be held over and published the following week. The price of each item must be stated Name Address Tel. MESSAGE

Those words

LARRY DERFNER

THERE are some words and phrases in our political vocabulary that have been so abused in recent years that they just shouldn't be spoken or written anymore.

For example: • Democracy. Everybody stands for it, especially bigots and theocrats. If a majority of people want to expel the Palestinians or cancel the Supreme Court, that's democracy. When right-wingers insist on democracy, they sound intimidating; but then they always sound intimidating. When left-wingers insist on it, we sound whiny, but then we always sound whiny.

• Delegitimize (Delegitimize?). I think it was the settlers who first popularized the term, when they accused the Rabin government of delegitimizing them as Israeli citizens, of not taking their views into consideration. The Rabin government took the settlers' views into consideration, alright, it just didn't agree with all of them. No delegitimization there, just good sense.

By now the word has been tossed back and forth so often that anytime you criticize a whole group of people you get accused of delegitimizing them. I called right-wingers intimidating, so I delegitimized them. I called left-wingers whiny, so I delegitimized them. Arrest me!

• Demagogue. This is a politician who plays on people's fears, uses exaggerations, distortions and lies to amplify those fears, who turns the Other into the Enemy and promises deliverance from those fears and those enemies.

But today a demagogue is any politician who says stuff you don't like, says it loudly, and gets applause.

• McCarthyism. In truth this means demagoguery in the name of anti-Communism. It also means the destruction of innocent people in the name of anti-Communism. But for decades the left used it as a knee-jerk defense anytime the right's attacks gathered momentum. This was left-wing crybabyness.

In Israel it is now the right-wing that most commonly complains of

I may be a
McCarthyist
demagogue, but I'm
tolerant and
democratic — so
don't delegitimize me

McCarthyism — and delegitimization. In other words, those leftists are saying bad things about us again. In other words, right-wing crybabyness.

TOLERANCE — This word was screwed up by the soft-headed Americans. It's part of an American litany — rainbows, mosaics, Michael Jackson and tolerance. It has come to mean love, understanding and sympathy for people who aren't like you.

But that's not what it means. Tolerance doesn't mean empathizing with people even though they're different; it means putting up with people even though you don't like them.

Play around with the word and see. If someone says, "I have tolerance for minorities," nominate him for the Nobel Peace Prize. But if he says, "I tolerate minorities," do you really want to take him along to the next interfaith dialogue?

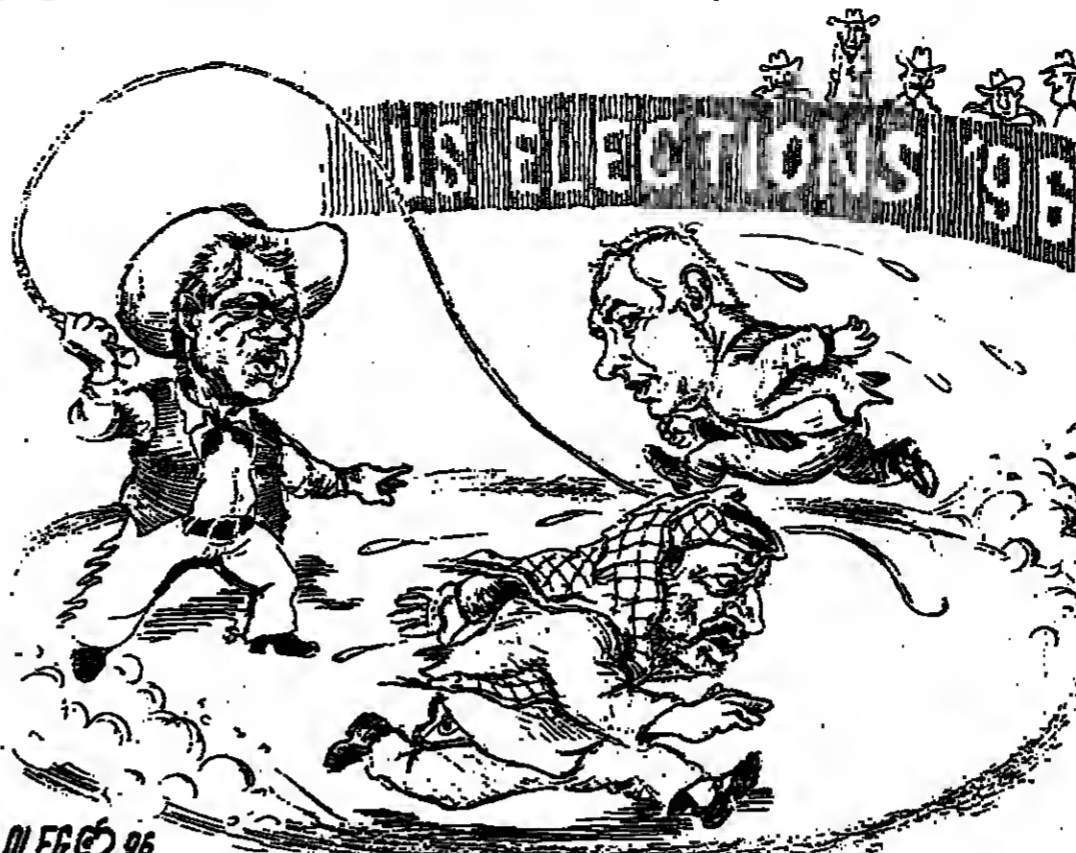
• Bolshevism. This actually means state ownership of everything, combined with ruthless, one-party rule. In Israel it means state ownership of anything, combined with the respectful suggestion that trade unions have a right to exist.

• Nazis/Hitler — Nobody and nothing in present-day Israel should ever be compared — wholly, partially, minutely — to anything having to do with the Nazis or Hitler. Whenever those images are mixed in with current events, all thought stops. The brain shuts off and the blood takes over. Mention of Hitler and the Nazis should be confined to conversations about the real Hitler and the real Nazis. Otherwise, verboten.

"Taken out of context?" "Blown out of proportion?" I have yet to see anybody say anything in the media that he was later sorry for without claiming that his words were taken out of context and/or blown out of proportion. The charge sticks because it's impossible to disprove. Israelis go around grumbling about how the damned media always take things out of context and blow things out of proportion.

God only knows what this means, but it has a nice ring. That's all for now. Eight down, 8,000 to go.

The writer is a journalist who lives in Tel Aviv.



The ultimate idealist

URI DAN
DENNIS EISENBERG

IT'S curious that international personalities will snatch at a straw to demean Israel's good name, adopting the highest moral tone all the while.

This week a group of "do-gooders" led by British actress Susannah York and Nobel Peace Prize winner Joseph Rotblat visited the country in a bid to free convicted traitor Mordechai Vanunu.

That Vanunu is in no way repentant was made clear by a note his well-wishers proudly waved aloft in which Vanunu boasted, "I am happy for what I revealed."

The fans' latest tool to help Vanunu get out are reports now emerging from Norway that the prisoner had been a prime candidate for this year's Nobel Peace Prize. Rotblat had been one of the promoters of that idea.

The fan club studiously avoids the issue of Vanunu's proven treachery, claiming that in betraying his country he was operating with the loftiest and most noble humanitarian objectives. They claim that the man who used to work at the Dimona nuclear installation was interested in only one thing: preventing nuclear war from ravaging the globe. They have fervently persuaded themselves that their man is the century's ultimate idealist.

Perhaps there was a certain logic to Rotblat's choice. If the distinguished gentlemen from Oslo were only too eager to press a peace prize into the willing hands of Yasser Arafat, a terrorist, why not give one to a traitor?

Let us recall the "idealism" of the man now serving 18 desecrated years in prison. He betrayed the trust invested in him as an employee, sneaking around his workplace like a thief surreptitiously photographing the nuclear reactor.

He then fled to Australia where he became a Christian and used an agent to try and sell his stolen goods to the highest bidder. Traveling to London he tried to hawk his wares from one newspaper to another until the *Sunday Times* offered him 200,000 pounds sterling for his pirated booty.

A rival, the *Daily Mirror*, knowing how Vanunu had taken his pictures and clearly believing the dictum that a man who steals from a thief is not himself a thief, printed a story from material Vanunu had shown them.

The *Sunday Times* then published the entire document, complete with pictures, for the agreed price.

Did the "idealist" offer his check to some humanitarian

Israel's capacity.

"Eighteen years in jail was too lenient a term for him," said one senior intelligence official of Vanunu. "The damage his betrayal caused Israel is beyond all measure."

Vanunu's supporters are clearly unmoved. His action will be particularly appreciated by another member of the visiting group — Daniel Ellsberg, who gained notoriety for leaking Pentagon defense papers to the *New York Times* and the *Washington Post*.

Another ally of the group is Amnesty International who is demanding that Israel free Vanunu, or at least release him from solitary confinement.

Jumping on the do-gooders' bandwagon was a local, MK Dedi Zucker, who claimed that Israel must be the only country in the free world to keep a prisoner in solitary confinement for such a long time.

Has he never heard of Jonathan Pollard, sitting alone in his cell deep underground in the US? Pollard has been sentenced to a full life sentence for doing precisely what the Vanunu groupies claim their hero did.

Have the admirers of Vanunu ever thought of taking up arms against the scandalous way Pollard was treated by the US administration? True, Pollard didn't sell his information to the highest-bidding newspaper. He acted only after he saw how US secretary Casper Weinberger was cheating the Israelis by withholding vital security information that an agreement between the two countries specified Israel should have.

Neither Amnesty International nor the protesters in Israel this week have protested to the US over the cruel and unprecedented life sentence imposed on a man who was trying to preserve Israel because he was a Jew and felt it his duty to do so. Nobody in the US has ever been sent to prison for more than five years for spying for a friendly country.

We question the motives of the Vanunu groupies in trying to elevate a traitor into an international hero. We believe their agenda is tainted with more than a suspicion of anti-Israel bias, perhaps even anti-Jewish bias.

And in Ellsberg's case, there may be an attempt to justify his own concept of "honorable" conduct: handing over state secrets to newspapers.

The writers are authors of *The Mossad: Secrets of the Israeli Secret Service and other books on the Middle East*.

POSTSCRIPTS

REMEMBER WATCHING Jurassic Park? Relax, you said, it's only a movie, just a Hollywood fantasy.

Well, we have bad news: it's all coming true. Japanese researchers are hoping to use ancient DNA and modern-day elephant sperm to try to recreate the prehistoric woolly mammoth.

But they acknowledge there's no scientific precedent for such a procedure, and other experts are extremely skeptical it could work.

Genetics specialist Kazufumi Goto and his colleague Sboji Okutsu went to Siberia to recover frozen fossils of the woolly mammoth, which became extinct about 10,000 years ago.

Finding preserved DNA in good condition would be key to his effort to use that and sperm from live elephants to produce a half-mammoth, half-elephant offspring. Over several generations, a creature genetically close to the prehistoric one could be

created, he said. "If successful, we may be able to revive other extinct species using the same process."

PEOPLE SEEKING affection probably shouldn't turn to snakes, turtles or iguanas.

But reptiles are the fastest-growing segment of the US pet population for other attributes, which aficionados say make them ideal domestic companions. They require little care, do not bark and can provide great natural pest control by eating all the flies, roaches and small rodents that come near them.

"Reptiles are the animal of the '90s," said Wayne Hill, director of the National Reptile Breeders Expo, which filled an Orlando hotel recently with thousands of scaly creepers and crawlers and the people who love them.

"They're the lazy man's pet. You can feed them and go away for a week, and as long as they have water, they're fine. They don't make any noise. They can be kept in aquariums like fish. They shed all in one piece, which you can pick up and throw away," Hill said.

CHINA DENIED it had detained the six-year old Tibetan boy it refuses to recognize as the reincarnation of the Panchen Lama.

"The Dalai Lama's illegally appointed 'son' is leading a free life, just like other Tibetan children," the official Xinhua news agency said.

According to the Dalai Lama, Tibet's exiled spiritual leader, six-year-old Gedhun Choekyi Nyima is the 11th incarnation of the Panchen Lama, Tibet's second holiest monk, who died in Beijing in 1989.

But Beijing countered with its own reincarnation, also a six-year-old boy.

China quoted its own candidate, Gyincain Norbu, as saying the Dalai Lama was the cause of turmoil in the region.

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A first visit

YESTERDAY'S visit to the Knesset by nine members of the Palestinian Legislative Council was a welcome one in that it demonstrated the willingness of some leading West Bank Palestinian figures to continue to seek dialogue with Israelis. This is especially important following last month's violence, in which IDF soldiers were shot by members of the Palestinian Police.

There were a number of MKs, from Moledet and the NRP, who vociferously protested against the delegation's presence in the Knesset, precisely because the memory of the violence and the 15 soldiers killed is still fresh and painful. NRP MK Hanan Porat labeled the visit "an embarrassment." But these protests fell rather flat, given that the government, which includes the NRP, is feverishly negotiating with Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat and the commanders of the policemen who opened fire against the IDF.

Furthermore, attention should be paid to the composition of the Palestinian delegation. Several of them were individuals who have been striving to maintain some measure of independence against Arafat's heavy-handed rule in the Palestinian-controlled areas. Many Israelis tend to view the Palestinians as politically monolithic, but this is not the case. Maintaining lines of communication with authentic leaders from the territories who support more democratization and are concerned with human rights is an Israeli interest.

The multi-partisan welcome the Palestinian visitors received in the Knesset is also positive. They were officially invited by Hadash, but members of a number of other factions, including Meretz and Labor, joined in greeting them. The legislators were also hosted in the office of Knesset deputy speaker Shevah Weiss.

Most significant was Likud MK Gideon Ezra's participation in meetings with the Palestinian Council members. Ezra, who had a long career in the General Security Service prior to being elected to the Knesset, favors maintaining active lines of communication with the Palestinians.

If Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's government does manage to eventually negotiate an agreement with the Palestinians on the future status of the territories, it will need to attain as broad a base of Knesset support as possible to implement it. Ezra could play a role in forging a consensus with some of Labor's MKs, especially with that wing of the Labor Party whose views regarding peace arrangements with the Palestinians are not very different from those held by what is being called the Likud's "pragmatic" wing.

Marwan Barghouti, Fatah general secretary in the West Bank, said he hoped that relations

could develop between the MKs and the council members "as befits two parliaments." But it must be remembered that the PA is far from being an exemplary democratic regime. The extent to which the PA has regularly violated democratic norms and human rights has dismayed even some of the most idealistic members of Israel's peace movements, who had believed that the Palestinians would prove to be the most democratic people in the Arab world. But the PA legislative council, which is meant to take active steps to safeguard democracy, has not lived up to its potential.

It is difficult to be surprised by this, however. The elections for the council in January were held in an atmosphere in which Palestinians who took positions opposed to Arafat's were intimidated. Systematic efforts were made by the PA prior to the elections to eliminate opposition to Arafat in the Palestinian press; the electronic media was already controlled by the regime. The newly elected council, which included members who had succeeded in overcoming this campaign against them, should have made correcting the lack of press freedom in the territories one of its first orders of business. But it chose to ignore the issue, and as a result the PA continues to interfere with the distribution of newspapers, threatens and intimidates journalists and human rights activists, and censors stories while dictating news coverage.

Recently, the PA banned the sale of a book written by Edward Said, a former member of the Palestinian National Council, which was critical of the Arafat regime. In any democratic society, the elected parliament would have immediately taken action against such a ban. The legislative council has out, and copies of Said's book have to be smuggled to the West Bank from Jerusalem.

Neither has the council done much to correct violations of many other basic rights. Detainees are often subject to harsh beatings by police, which have led to deaths in some cases. Suspects brought to trial before the State Security Courts are not granted a fair opportunity to defend themselves. A council session held last April to discuss police shootings of demonstrators at a university in Nablus quickly changed its agenda to discuss Israeli violations of the Oslo agreement.

Thus, while the goodwill expressed during yesterday's historic Knesset visit is surely positive, the Palestinian Legislative Council has a long way to go before it can hope to be considered a "parliament" on a par with that of Israel's. Perhaps a few more visits — during some of the more boisterous plenum sessions — will give the council members an idea of what democracy is about.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

COME DOWN TO EARTH

Sir, — When voting last May for Binyamin Netanyahu for prime minister, many of us voted more against Shimon Peres than for him.

Knowing that in the end it would be the only solution, we were all in one way or another in favor of the peace process with the Palestinians. But we were against the speed with which it was implemented, especially in the light of the bus bombings.

Netanyahu promised us peace with security, just what we so ardently wanted. Maybe he brought us a kind of security — it is too early to tell. But he has returned us to a situation which just four months ago we would have denied could ever occur. With his stubborn, arrogant and humiliating behavior towards our peace partners, instead of uniting Jerusalem, he united all the Arab world against us. Arab troops are moving and maneuvering close to our borders. Arab states have frozen the establishment of ties with us. Arab leaders, who had become more friendly, have turned against us.

EVEN JORDAN'S KING

Even Jordan's King Hussein, the most sincere Arab friend of Israel. With his stubbornness, Netanyahu has put himself in a very difficult position. People close to him have claimed that from the beginning he knew he would meet Arafat, redeploy in Hebron, etc., but dragged it out. He might feel that by now doing these things, he will be giving in to pressure and be afraid of losing credibility and the image of strength and resoluteness.

I believe he can only do one of two things: Come down to business, to reality, to pragmatism, or establish a national unity government consisting of the best and most experienced people from both sides. I am very much afraid that, if he continues down his present road, we will go from crisis to crisis, one worse than the other, and with a final result I do not want to even contemplate.

BENT SCHALIMTZEK
Ra'anana.

JOSEPH'S TOMB

Sir, — There is a lot of misunderstanding and disinformation about Joseph's Tomb in Shechem (Nablus).

The importance and the value of the city to the Jewish people begins with our Father Abraham. Shechem was the very first place where Abraham stopped when entering the Holy Land. It was here that God first revealed Himself to Abraham, and that the divine promise "I will give this land to your offspring" was first heard. Jacob, re-entering the country, bought the field that adjoins the exact gates of the city, where later Joseph, his son, was buried. Hence it is considered among the three places in the Land of Israel (with the Temple Mount and the Tomb of the Patriarchs) that were purchased with money and not merely conquered by force, thereby denying the gentiles any legal claim to them.

Our conviction regarding the exact location of Joseph's Tomb is supported by the Bible, by archeological finds and by an unbroken

Jewish, Samaritan and Moslem tradition.

The tomb is considered sacred only to the Jews, and since the Six Day War, thousands of Jews have come to it every year to pray. More than 13 years ago, a very young man, Roman Aldouhi, established a yeshiva at the site. He named the yeshiva *Od Yosef Hal*, which means the spirit of Joseph still lives. About 40 people have been studying Torah there since then, under very unfriendly conditions. The depth and strength of their commitment to this holy place have been tested many times and have never failed. Today they are temporarily encamped in a broken and deserted cabin near the army base outside Shechem, waiting to go back to their study center.

Shall Arab terrorists and murderers continue to benefit from their deeds, watching the brave young scholars exiled from their spiritual fountain?
NOAM LIVNAT
Elon Moreh.

HOLOCAUST SURVIVORS

Sir, — Further to Hana Greenfield's letter of September 29, AMCHA indeed shares her concern in making certain that Holocaust survivors are given full reparations payments. We, as an organization caring for survivors, have taken a vigorous role on a general and an individual level, to assist survivors in this matter.

The modest grant which AMCHA is receiving from the Swiss government is a gesture by that government in offering temporary relief to AMCHA's budget crunch; the grant is enough only to support the organization's direct psychosocial services to Israeli survivors for a period of 10 weeks. This grant is certainly not in lieu of the money from the bank deposits of those who perished during the Holocaust. Rather, the issue of the bank deposits is being negotiated by Jewish organizations whose interest is in setting the Swiss bank problem to the satisfaction of all.

MANFRED KLAFFER,
PRESIDENT
AMCHA — National Israeli Center for Psychosocial Support of Survivors of the Holocaust and the Second Generation
Jerusalem.

COMPUTER PROGRAMMING

Sir, — Your article of September 22 about the new practical engineers' course in computer programming, which opens in November in Shlomi, failed to mention that this is the only program of its kind in the world (run jointly with "Micro-soft"). This unique course was made possible by a generous grant from the Charles Clore Foundation to the Erez College in Shlomi.

SANDEE ILLouz,
DIRECTOR,
Erez Center for Educational and Social Advancement in Western Galilee
Shlomi.

هذا من الاصل

Jerusalem Post
hose
ords
RY DERFNER

A passing, or lasting, fancy for your ob-gyn

DEAR RUTHIE
RUTHIE BLUM



DEAR Ruthie, I have an embarrassing problem: I'm attracted to my gynecologist. I am uncomfortable talking about this with friends, because this doctor delivered all three of my children (while I was still married).

The truth is that I was always attracted to him, but didn't admit it to myself, because I wanted to continue seeing him. Also, he is a superb doctor, with a very good reputation. What I'd like to know, now that I am no longer married, is should I stop using him? I don't know what his marital status is, though I've heard rumors that he has had more than one wife, and may be "in between" spouses at the moment. What should I do?

Dreaming of my Doctor
Somewhere in Israel
Dear Doctor-Dreamy,

There is nothing unusual about becoming attracted to one's ob-gyn. Men in positions of authority can have a magnetic effect on many women. But when the "authority" is focused on the womb, the admiration and reliance upon such a figure on the part of a woman can be so great as to feel like true love -- including while giving birth to another man's child.

What is different about your case is that these feelings, rather than passing, have become enhanced. Now divorced, you are actually entertaining ideas of seeing this man not as your doctor, but as your lover. As such, you might want to ask yourself whether it wouldn't be healthier for you to go to another gynecologist professionally, and to try and get to know this one on a more personal level. Doing so will not guarantee that he is either available or interested in a relationship with you, but will give you the peace of mind to try and find out. And it

will provide him with the opportunity to return your advances (if he so wishes) without fear of breaking any codes of professional ethics.

Dear Ruthie, My fiancée has been showing signs of cold feet about our wedding. She keeps thinking of reasons to put it off (the weather, indecision about the musicians, the caterers, etc.) My feeling, which I've expressed to her on more than one occasion, is that something else is bothering her besides the technical arrangements. She completely denies this, but I still sense otherwise. Is there a better way for me to approach her on this subject, so as to get her to really talk to me? Should I just let her be, and wait until she stops fidgeting about the date? I am inexperienced in these matters.

Gloomy Groom-to-Be
Syracuse, New York
Dear Gloomy Groom,

Even if your feelings are right on target, your fiancée may not necessarily have the self-awareness required to make the connection between her "stalling" techniques and what you refer to as "cold feet." This may be why she denies a connection.

Another possibility is that your fiancée is well aware of her chilly toes, but doesn't have the heart to break it to you. Yet a third possibility -- though one which you did not mention -- is that you have been giving off some "frosted" of your own.

And finally, there always remains the possibility that your fiancée really is perturbed by the details of the wedding day.

Whatever the case, you should continue to discuss your anxieties with her. You obviously need to air them.

Letters should be addressed to: "Dear Ruthie," POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem. For E-mail: editors@jpost.co.il

IAI to get country's industrial 'Oscar'

STEVE RODAN

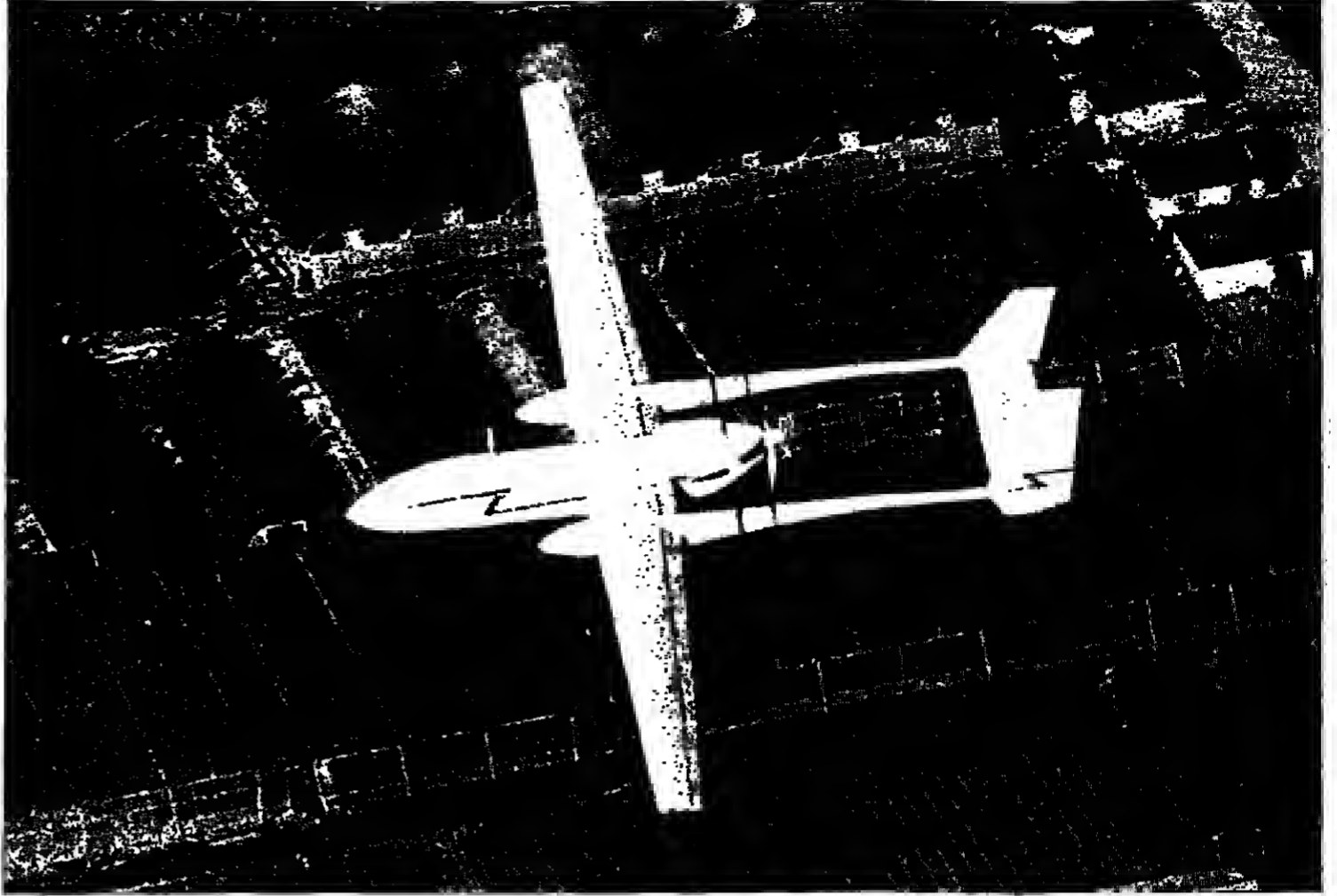
ZVI Arazi designs them. Ephraim Zuckerman makes them. And together with their respective divisions, both men made history in Israeli R&D. In a six-month period in 1994, Arazi and Zuckerman led an effort to complete what is now regarded as one of the most advanced unmanned air vehicles (UAVs) in the world. The Heron went from the drawing board to the new promise of Israel Aircraft Industries' line of UAVs.

Their achievement has not gone unnoticed. On Sunday, IAI will receive the Kaplan Prize for productivity and efficiency -- the nation's Oscar awarded to industry. The cherry was the Heron, but the prize goes to IAI's Malat's division line of UAVs.

The first of Malat's UAVs was the Scout, used by the IDF in reconnaissance operations in south Lebanon in the 1970s, developed in the aftermath of the 1973 Yom Kippur war to provide the military with real-time intelligence in enemy territory without endangering human life. Theo followed the Pioneer, deployed in the 1991 Gulf war, and the Ranger and Hunter -- several of which are being used by the US Army.

All in all, Malat has become one of the most successful divisions in IAI, with sales of more than \$100 million last year. Eighty percent of the revenues from UAVs come from abroad, with at least 10 client countries. To date, the UAVs developed by IAI have flown 50,000 hours, whether in the IDF or in the US and other forces. It is a bright spot for a government company that only earlier this month asked the Knesset for \$390 million in loan guarantees to enable it to pay off suppliers.

"The field of UAVs has great potential for growth, both in IAI and worldwide," Zuckerman, Malat's general manager, says. "We see military budgets being reduced but the budget for intelligence is growing. These systems are intelligent and provide information in real time."



The Heron, IAI's most recently developed drone, is the cherry of the firm's Malat UAV division.

be sold to an unnamed country. In another area, a group of Israel Air Force officers are led on a tour of the plant.

Arazi, general manager of Malat's engineering division, recalls the doubts raised before the Heron project was launched. "When you do in-house development, you have to think three times whether you should start it," he says. "Because we didn't have the money, we had to do things fast."

The Heron team worked in one hangar from January to June 1994 -- in all 10 months from drawing board to prototype. The goal was to make Heron a strategic weapon -- one which would be able to stay in the air for long periods and travel long distances within enemy territory. It would be a far cry from the earlier drones that

resembled large model airplanes and were limited in scope. "The whole industry is going toward bigger UAVs," Arazi says. "They are meant to carry out support missions for the military. You can't find fighter-jet crews that can stay 50 hours in the air the way the UAVs can." Zuckerman agrees. "We see the Heron as a niche in the market that will expand greatly in the coming years," he says.

IAI engineers say the Heron is a turning point for Israel in the field of UAVs. It can carry a payload, usually of electronic surveillance equipment and radar, of up to 250 kg to an altitude of 30,000 feet, out of killing range of most interceptors. Now the goal of IAI executives is to market the Heron. The US is a chief market but mil-

itary commanders there are still unsure about the UAVs. In the early 1990s, IAI's Hunter was hugely popular with the US Army. Now, the oew wonder is the Predator, built by General Atomics in San Diego. It has been adopted by the US Air Force for missions in Bosnia and is under consideration for deployment in South Korea.

But the Predator has been having its own troubles. In Bosnia, where the US has control of the air, two Predators have already crashed. IAI executives have decided not to compete directly with the Predator just yet. They are benefiting from a oew US defense spending bill signed last month by President Bill Clinton that expands their UAV program. This includes congressional

authorization for \$30 million more than requested by the Pentagon's UAV Joint Program Office for the purchase of additional Pioneer UAVs, an older model that is also being used in Bosnia.

Even the Hunter, which in February the Pentagon decided to no longer acquire, will get a boost by Congress, and defense industry sources expect the US to eventually buy all seven Hunter systems originally agreed to by the Defense Department. So far, four systems have been purchased. "We know that the Heron is a lot better than the Predator," Zuckerman says. "But the Predator has its supporters. We figure that we will wait until we see how the Predator program develops before we enter into any bids."

A natural friendship between East and West

A recent visit to South Korea provided some startling parallels between that Asian country and Israel, Barry Rubin writes

TRADITION in South Korea has little to say about Jews or Israel. Issues which, in the West, evoke passion and pain, are exotic or unknown in these parts. This means that antisemitism is totally unfamiliar, while attitudes toward Israel are unburdened by preconceptions.

Nonetheless, the portents for friendship are favorable. Both South Korea and Israel face radical adversaries unamenable to peace, both are US allies (despite periodic differences with Washington's views), both are self-reliant, rapidly developing, need military strength and face the possibility of war.

The most noticeable parallel is Korea's economic miracle. The bloodshed and devastation of the 1950-1953 war was so intense that it is hard to find a building dating from before that time. Today, the country is one of the biggest and most advanced of industrial states. Seoul, where one-third of the population lives, is virtually indistinguishable from a Western city. Despite this, the city remains quite attractive, with gentle hills scattered around, and the broad Han river flowing through the center.

From Seoul, all looks as peaceful and untroubled as the view

from a Tel Aviv cafe. But real-estate prices in Seoul's northern suburbs are much lower because only 70 km. away is the border with North Korea. Not only is North Korea one of the few remaining Communist states, but it is arguably the looniest of them all. The concept of brainwashing was invented there, and citizens are permitted only radios manufactured to broadcast exclusively North Korean stations.

The scenically beautiful border is covered with fences, patrol stations, and military bases on both sides, reminding one of the Israel-Syria cease-fire line on the Golan Heights. But the difference is that the warring people on both sides belong to the same nation. Korea's wound is most visible at Panmunjon, the tiny neutral zone where negotiations are held and where the smallest incident could lead to full-scale war.

Nearby, both sides have built giant flags and border villages (the North Korean one is uninhabited) to show their way of life is superior, and constructed giant flag poles. Alongside the hut where truce violations are discussed, two soldiers from the joint US-South Korean security battalion stand in judo position facing a triangle of North Korean



Two South Korean soldiers guard the demilitarization zone between the two Koreas, an area which reminds one of the Israel-Syria cease-fire line on the Golan Heights.

soldiers a few steps away.

It is unlikely that war will break out, but it is a possibility every single day. The North frequently acts provocatively. Some weeks ago, a North Korean submarine landed three infiltrators before running aground. The crew died in a shoot-out with the South Korean army, and the ter-

rorists -- still not captured -- murdered at least three civilians. A South Korean diplomat was beaten to death in a Russian city near the North Korean border. Spies are periodically uncovered. Huge

tunnels are dug by the North for dispatching infiltrators -- and perhaps one day an army -- under the border.

In response, the US keeps 35,000 troops in South Korea. South Korea now builds all its own infantry and tank equipment, and all young men serve two and a half years in the army. Departing from a heavily male-oriented tradition, there are now evco 300 women officers. Women have just been accepted for the first time for air-force pilot training.

South Korea over retaliates against the north. And while South Koreans are divided as to whether doing so is a good or bad idea, they agree that this inaction is mostly the result of US constraint. Moreover, they are painfully aware that intelligence gathering is almost totally in American hands. There is a rumor that the US military knew about the North Korean submarine but did not inform them earlier.

A few months ago, in a bizarrely familiar replay of the Pollard affair, a Korean-born CIA analyst was arrested and charged with spying for Seoul.

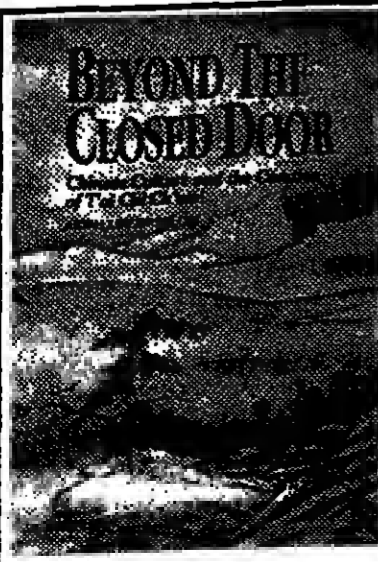
Asked about this incident, a well-placed Korean shrugged and said, "They don't give us all the intelligence we need." That is why Seoul is now fascinated by the idea of buying Israeli high-

tech air force and intelligence equipment, despite US pressure to buy American-made products. Equally, South Korea wants to learn about Israel's methods and strategies for survival.

South Korea also does a great deal of business with the Arab world and a remarkable 250,000 Korean workers are laboring in Iran or Arab countries. Still, the Arab boycott's end, and Korean tenacity, remove the obstacles for close contacts with Israel. Bilateral trade has virtually doubled -- while remaining balanced -- during each of the last four years and is expected to reach about \$1 billion for 1996. Korea sells Israel cars and consumer appliances; Israel provides high technology.

Aside from Israel's need to sell arms and equipment, as its military industries lose money and find fewer export markets, there is another reason for close cooperation. Arguably, North Korea is the main self-made enemy of Israel outside the Middle East. It is a major -- in some cases, the main -- source for missiles and nuclear technology for Iran, Syria, Libya, and in the past for Iraq as well.

With so many friends, enemies, and problems in common, Israel and South Korea have ample reasons to cooperate. And the benefits for both sides may be far larger than anyone expects.



BEYOND THE CLOSED DOOR

Chinese Culture and the Creation of T'ai Chi Ch'uan
T'ai Chi is a child of Chinese culture, reflecting and illuminating the root ideas of its heritage. Arieh Lev Breslow weaves a colorful tapestry of myth, stories, philosophy, history and his own experience as a teacher of T'ai Chi, to give the reader a profound insight into the culture from which it came, helping to understand the origins and practice of T'ai Chi. "Reading this book will certainly take more time than a meal in a Chinese restaurant, and the reward is likely to be greater" - Michael Widlanski, The Jerusalem Post.

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

Thursday, October 17, 1996

Magen defends Brodet report, criticizes cabinet

EVELYN GORDON

DEPUTY Finance Minister David Magen yesterday joined opposition MKs in sharply criticizing the way the cabinet handled the Brodet report.

Poraz stressed that the test offered the government by the Brodet report was easy compared to the test it will face in trying to pass massive budget cuts, which most coalition MKs vigorously oppose.

CBS report labels 1996 a year of slowing economic growth

DAVID HARRIS

EARLY indications suggest a slowdown in the economy this year, particularly in Gross Domestic Product and exports, the Central Bureau of Statistics reported yesterday.

However, there is a slowdown in the export of goods and services. Exports are likely to end the year showing an increase of 4%, compared to 11% to 15% in each of the last four years.

deals, will total \$11.5 billion, compared to \$9.8b. last year. An 8% rise is anticipated in fixed capital formation in buildings and equipment, a similar figure to that recorded last year.

Sharansky calls on Frenkel to lower interest rates

EVELYN GORDON

INDUSTRY and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky called on Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel to lower interest rates yesterday, saying it is the only way to prevent more factory closures.

since it cannot compete with low-wage countries. In Jordan, for instance, wages are a tenth of what they are here.



British Airways agreed to help the Transport Ministry with the privatization of El Al. The agreement came during a visit to Britain this week by Minister Yitzhak Levy (2nd right). He is flanked by (from left) El Al Chairman Yosef Ciechanover, BA deputy managing director David Holmes, and BA Israel manager Nira Dror.

Hyundai to supply Bezeq with \$12.5m. of fiber-optic cables

JUDY SIEGEL

SOUTH Korean company Hyundai will manufacture 130,000 kilometers of fiber-optic cable for Bezeq at a cost of \$12.5 million, in the first such deal between the two companies, according to an announcement by Bezeq yesterday.

Bezeq director-general Yitzhak Kan said his company would continue to be one of the main purchasers of locally made cables, which are very high quality. However, due to the need for readiness in a competitive market, Bezeq would have to reduce the costs of purchasing its equipment, he said.

Meanwhile, the public telecommunications company said it is looking for a partner to help invest in its Haifa-based Bezeq Communications facility.

Ports and Railways Authority Notice of Proposed Purchase Tender No. 7200/001. 1. The Ports and Railways Authority - Israel (P.R.A.) wishes to obtain quotations, in accordance with the International Agreement on Governmental Procurement, GATT, for the supply of the following equipment: 3 Double Jib Level Luffing Cranes (DJLC) for the Ports of Ashdod and Haifa. Plus an option for up to additional 3 cranes in the next 2 years.

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PRIME Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents. Date: 15.10.96. Purchase Price: 112.50. Redemption Price: 111.03.

TARGET Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents. Date: 15.10.96. Purchase Price: 152.48. Redemption Price: 150.24.

Ford profits rise, but European losses concern analysts

DEARBORN, Mich. (Reuters) - New pickup trucks and sport/utility vehicles helped Ford Motor Co.'s third-quarter profits to almost double to \$686 million, the company said yesterday, though it alarmed analysts with growing losses in Europe.

Meanwhile, the public telecommunications company said it is looking for a partner to help invest in its Haifa-based Bezeq Communications facility.

Hapoalim opens office in Berlin

BANK Hapoalim has opened a new representative office in Germany as part of its plans to encourage business between Israel and Germany.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Gasoline prices rise 2% because of crude oil increases: Prices of gasoline and fuel-based products rose from midnight last night, following substantial increases in the price of crude oil in recent weeks. Gasoline 96 octane became more expensive by 2 percent, the price rising from NIS2.97 to NIS 3.03 a litre. Unleaded gasoline also rose in price by 2%, from NIS2.88 to NIS2.94.

Electronic sector slowdown blamed on Bank of Israel

EXPORT growth among electronics firms, which has been decreasing gradually, will drop to an annual 13.2 percent by the end of this year, compared to 20.3% in 1993, the Manufacturers Association said yesterday.

Dotan forms alliance with US public relations firm

DOTAN Communications of Tel Aviv formed an alliance with Fleishman-Hillard, the US's third-largest public relations firm.

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS. Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (11.9.96). Currency (deposit for) 3 MONTHS 6 MONTHS 12 MONTHS. U.S. dollar (\$250,000) 4.750 5.000 6.575.

Handwritten text in Arabic script: "هلنا من الالط"

הכלה מן האסון

Stocks gain on low inflation, rate-cut hopes

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

FELICE MARANZ



TEL AVIV - Stocks gained for a second day, rising amid expectations a lower-than-expected inflation report for September may prompt the Bank of Israel to reduce interest rates.

European stock rally fizzles as US market slips

LONDON (Reuters) - This week's record run by European bourses fizzled yesterday after US inflation figures failed to reignite the buying spree and Wall Street slipped.

The FTSE 100 index of leading shares ended down 26.4 points at 4,024.4 after stronger-than-expected unemployment and earnings numbers, together with a strong rise in public borrowing combined to weigh on the market.

Dow rises as investors shrug off inflation concerns

NEW YORK (AP) - US stocks edged higher yesterday, rebounding with bonds late in the session as investors shrugged off some inflation worries and disappointment that several strong earnings reports were not even better.

CURRENCY CROSS-RATES table with columns for MARK, STERLING, YEN, SFY, FFR and corresponding rates.

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Multi-sided trading table with columns for Name, Price, Change, Volume, and various stock categories like Commercial Banks, Industrials, etc.

Two-sided trading

Two-sided trading table with columns for Name, Price, Change, Volume, and various stock categories.

Key Representative Rates table showing US dollar, Sterling, and Mark rates against NIS.

NYSE STOCK MARKETS table showing various market indices and their changes.

New York market indexes table showing DJ Industrial, DJ Transport, etc.

Other stock market indexes table showing FTSE 100, Nikkei 225, etc.

Israeli stocks in US table showing NYSE/AMEX/MASDAQ/OTC listings.

INFLATION MARKETS table showing Dollar crossrates.

Libor rates table showing various interest rates for different terms.

Foreign financial data courtesy of Commstock Trading Ltd.

US commodities table showing prices for various goods.

London commodities table showing prices for various goods.

Spot market metals (US) table showing prices for various metals.

New York metal futures table showing prices for various metal futures.

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INTERNATIONAL STOCK PRICES

Large table of international stock prices for various companies and markets.

Commstock Trading Ltd. (Date 16-OCT-96)

Commstock Trading Ltd. (Date 16-OCT-96)

Beckham, Cantona steer United to victory

ISTANBUL (Reuters) - Manchester United took a significant step towards the quarter-finals of the European Cup with a well-worked 2-0 win over Fenerbahce yesterday.

Goals by David Beckham after 55 minutes and their French skipper Eric Cantona five minutes later ended United's recent bad run of away form in Europe and more importantly moved them to within a point of Champions League Group C leaders Juventus, which drew 1-1 with Rapid Vienna.

"It's been a good night for us," said a relieved United coach Alex Ferguson. "I think we've learned from our opening match when we lost 1-0 to Juventus in Turin, and expressed ourselves throughout the whole game."

The Fenerbahce camp was downcast. "It is very difficult now (for us to go any further in the competition)," said the team's Brazilian coach Sebastiao Lazaroni. "In such situations you must not give the opponents any opportunities, we gave them two gifts."

United, which was famously intimidated by Galatasaray's vociferous fans on two visits to Turkey in 1993 and 1994, killed off the fans' passions with a slow, cautious, approach in the first half.

Their cause was not helped in a hostile atmosphere, with United complaining to UEFA officials after the Turkish public address announcer played strident music and chants during the first half, trying to whip the fans.

But United kept its cool and countered in the second half with Beckham's opener after 55 minutes.

Ronny Johnsen's tackle on Nigerian "Jay Jay" Okocha in United's half released the ball to Cantona, who swept it forward into Ole Solskjaer's path as United caught the Turks light at the back.

He drew both defenders to him then freed Beckham to his right for the 21-year-old to drill his right-foot shot past goalkeeper Rustu Recber.

The Turks were still reeling when Solskjaer's back-heel put in Jorði Cruyff on the left, a low cross presenting his French skipper with a simple tap-in from six yards - only the fifth goal of his European career.

Fenerbahce, which began the match brightly, has now virtually lost any chance of going through to the next stage of the after losing at home to Juventus and drawing away at Rapid Vienna.

Group A
In Auxerre: Auxerre (France) 1, Grasshopper Zurich (Switzerland) 0 (1-0). Scorer: Thomas Demuollet 42.

Group B
In Amsterdam: Ajax Amsterdam (Netherlands) 4, Glasgow Rangers (Scotland) 1 (2-0). Scorers: Ajax - Davit 25 and 41, Tijani Babangida 83, Nordin Wooter 90, Rangers - Ian Durrant 88.

Group C
In Madrid: Atletico Madrid (Spain) 0, Borussia Dortmund (Germany) 1 (0-0). Scorer: Stefan Reuter 50.

Group D
In Bucharest: Steaua Bucharest (Romania) 1, Widzew Lodz (Poland) 0 (0-0). Scorer: Daniel Boguz 82, own goal.

Group E
In Vienna: Rapid Vienna (Austria) 1, Juventus (Italy) 1 (1-1). Scorers: Rapid Vienna - Andraz Lusak 20, Juventus - Christian Vieri 9.

Group F
In Istanbul: Fenerbahce (Turkey) 0, Manchester United (England) 2 (0-0). Scorers: David Beckham 55, Eric Cantona 60.

Group G
In Gothenburg: IFK Gothenburg (Sweden) 2, AC Milan (Italy) 1 (0-0). Scorers: Gothenburg - Erik Wahlstedt 74, Nicolas Alexandersson 84, Milan - George Weah 52.

Group H
In Trondheim: Rosenborg Trondheim (Norway) 0, Porto (Portugal) 1 (0-0). Scorer: Mario Jardel 90.



UPSETTING NEWS - South Africa's Marcus Ondruska beat third seed Felix Mantilla from Spain, 7-5, 6-4. (Brian Hentler)

Welgreen falls to Sanchez in straight sets

NIR Welgreen was the last Israeli to compete in this year's Eisenberg Israel Open in Ramat Hasharon but his first round defeat yesterday was nothing if not bold.

Welgreen, ranked 229 in the world, went out on court, determined to play aggressively even against fourth-seeded Javier Sanchez from Spain, ranked 46.

Welgreen was beaten 6-4, 6-3 in 68 minutes but the 19-year-old player displayed a variety of strokes and imagination that shows clearly why in the latest ATP rankings he has shot up to become Israel's No. 2 player, behind Eyal Ran.

Sanchez played his evergreen attractive tennis, keeping his opponent under pressure, but Welgreen was not about to be intimidated even as the Spaniard raced to the net and executed accurate passing shots.

Sanchez, 10 years Welgreen's senior, had the clear edge during both sets but Welgreen looks set to be a prominent force in Israeli tennis.

HEATHER CHAIT

After the game Welgreen was clear about his game. "I wanted to win, I wasn't interested in being a sucker. I had my chances and I could have played better."

Welgreen expressed the opinion that by year's end, he should enter the world's top 200 players.

Top seed Malivai Washington once again hardly worked up a sweat against German qualifier Martin Sinner. The American, world No. 13, broke serve twice in the first set and again in the second for an effortless 6-1, 6-4 victory.

Sinner, who had knocked Noam Behr out of the tournament, did little right, hitting wild balls in every direction except on court.

Washington directed the game with the finesse of a conductor, moving the shots with his quizzical grace.

Although Sinner revived towards the end and broke serve, Washington eventually oceeded

less than one hour to finish the work and be swallowed up by the throng of children, seeking his autograph.

The upset of the day came from Marcus Ondruska of South Africa who beat third seed Felix Mantilla from Spain 7-5, 6-4.

In other singles play, fifth-seeded Argentine Hernan Gummy defeated Richard Fromberg from Australia 6-4, 7-5 and South African Grant Stafford, the winner of this year's Jerusalem Open, beat Gustavo Kuerten from Brazil 6-4, 6-3.

In doubles play, qualifiers Amir Hadad and Harel Levy upset Ran and Clinton Ferreira in a prolonged 1-6, 6-3, 6-2 triumph.

Today's singles schedule (play begins at 2 p.m.) - Stadium: 4-Javier Sanchez (Spain) v. Sargis Sargsian (Armenia), Johan van Herck (Belgium) v. 2-Albert Costa (Spain).

Court 14: 8-Scott Draper (Australia) v. Nicolas Pereira (Venezuela), Marcelo Filippini (Uruguay) v. 6-Javier Franz (Argentina).

Maccabi hoping to cope with accurate Ulker and its crazy crowd

MACCABI Tel Aviv's Euro League game tonight vs. Ulker Istanbul (first half 4:45 pm on ITV's Channel 3, second half on Channel 1, 5:30 pm.) won't exactly be a Turkish delight.

A large, boisterous crowd is expected and it will be one more factor in the game against Ulker, which at 2-2 has caused some problems for even the toughest teams in Maccabi's bracket.

The good news is that Ulker comes off an 84-80 loss to Limoges last week. The bad news is that, even though they were playing away, the Turks controlled the backboards and almost stole another victory. At home tonight before their very loud supporters, they should prove a tough out for coach Zvi Scherf's squad to crack.

There are some familiar faces on Ulker, chiefly foreigner Daniel Godfred, who averaged 17.8 points per game for Barcelona last season, and shot 40.5 percent from behind the arc. He hasn't been as effective this year, however, scoring just 15.5 a game, and is only 2-8 from long range in Ulker's four Euro League games. Against Limoges, he was limited to 11 points, but he remains a dangerous scorer.

Ulker's other foreigner, Teoman Alibegovic, is in trouble with Ulker, which is considering

ARYEH DEAN COHEN

replacing him thanks to last week's disappointing four points vs. Limoges in 26 minutes. Alibegovic (10.5 ppg) has been a disappointment all season, and has only averaged about 20 minutes a game, but may rise to the occasion to save his spot on the roster. Last year, with Alba Berlin, he averaged 21.7 in European competition.

The other starters include point guard Orhan Ene (five assists per game, 13.3 ppg and 54.5% from three-points), Serdar Apaydin and Haluk Yildirim, the latter two the premier three-point specialists on a club that loves to put it up from far, far out. Apaydin (46.2% can shoot the lights out of an arena, and the club is 32-80 from long range this Euro League season.

Another player to watch out for is naturalized American Kevin Rankio, the club's leading rebounder who had 21 points and 10 boards against Limoges. Shooting guard Harun Erdenay (11.8 ppg) also likes to let it fly, and has hit 9-16 so far this year from long range.

Although reserve center Constantin Popa may miss the game with a foot injury and Maccabi's Buck Johnson is also nursing an injury, Maccabi still

hopes its superior inside game will overcome the Turkish side, which bases its attack largely on outside shooting. However, to do so, Randy White, who fouled out of Maccabi's last two Euro League games, will have to prove he can stay in the game until the end.

For Maccabi, Doron Sheffer appears to be coming into his own as point guard, and made all the difference last week. Scherf should try to keep him on the court as much as possible, and must find minutes for Brad Leaf, who continues to be one of Maccabi's most productive players in Euro League play.

Nadav Heneffeld also needs to continue his contributions on offense, which have been so vital in Maccabi's recent European success.

If Maccabi can successfully defend against the three-point crazy Turks and overcome the crowd noise, they should stay atop their Euro League group.

In other Group A action, CSKA Moscow plays Limoges and Stefanel Milan plays Panionios.

GROUP A

Team	W	L	Pts	F
Maccabi Tel Aviv	3	1	7	7
Stefanel Milan	3	2	8	8
Panionios	2	2	8	8
Limog	2	3	8	5
CSKA Moscow	1	3	5	5
Limoges	1	3	5	5

Israeli fencer cuts through all opposition Rabkin beats world bowls champion

LOCAL SCENE

HEATHER CHAIT

AT only 18, fencer Tomer Or already has a gold medal to his name. Or, from Hapoel Haifa, won the series of World Cup tournaments (until age 21) held in Germany in the saber discipline event.

Or's record was 11 wins and one defeat, competing against 200 fencers from 15 countries. In the semifinal, Or beat a Belgian fencer and in the final, he subdued the favorite fencer from Germany 15-9.

On target

Chani Kashensky was right on target when she smashed two national shooting records at the Hapoel Championships over the weekend. Firing a standard rifle, Kashensky bettered the standing record by two points and the kneeling position also by two points for an overall score of 677 points.

Rabkin's racket

And the winner is... Joyce Eisenberg. At a gala evening to mark the Israel Tennis Center's

20th birthday, Eisenberg, here for the tournament she sponsors, snapped up Yitzhak Rabin's tennis racket which was on auction. The philanthropic Eisenberg promptly handed over the sum of \$15,000 she paid for the item to the ITC.

Coming to wrestle

Finally, company for Gacca Moshe Ivayev, the world youth champion in the freestyle wrestling event is set to make aliyah. Ivayev, from Azerbaijan, won the world youth championships (until 18 years) in the 52kg category.

How low can you go?

Tour de Sdom, the mountain bike race at the lowest place on earth, will be held this year on November 9. There will be two routes, a competitive 22kilometer race and 14-kilometer family course, and a there will be pre-race glimpse of the routes that will be offered on October 26.

For more details, call 07-6594422.

NORMAN SPIRO

JEFF Rabkin made up for his defeat in the World Championship final yesterday by convincingly beating World Champion Tony Alcock 25-7 in the first bowls Test match against England at the Kfar Hamaccabiah Club.

While Alcock did not produce his usual scintillating form, full credit must be given to Rabkin for an outstanding performance of precision drawing and countering shots.

England's world championship fours team of Andy Thomson, John Bell, David Cutler and Brett Morey won 22-21 against Cecil Bransky, Haim Miller, Raymond Sher and Yair Lieberthal - the Israeli squad coming back strong from 20-10 down at the 17th end against the powerful English side.

In the pairs game, Rabkin and Miller kept level with 15-all at the 14th end against Thomson (a world indoors singles and pairs champion) and Cutler - the English pair their finishing strong for a 26-22 win.

The trips game saw Andy Bell and Morey in unbeatable form for a 34-13 win against Bransky, Sher and Lieberthal.

The second Test Match will be at Ra'anana on Saturday preceded tomorrow by a singles round robin tournament - also at Ra'anana.

SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL - Last night's results, European Cup: Hapoel Jerusalem 86, New Wave Goteborg 77; BC Plazna (Bulgaria) 91, Hapoel Galil Elyon 85. Korac Cup: Maccabi Rishon LeZion 94, UPS Sparta Prague (Czech Republic) 69; Varso (Bulgaria) 98, Boel Herzliya 73.

La Russa, Cox take heat for 'bad decisions'

ATLANTA (AP) - Make a shaky decision in the ninth inning in May, and it's no great sin.

Make the same move in October, and a manager might hear about it forever.

Red Sox fans still can't believe John McNamara did not pull Bill Buckner for a defensive replacement in Game 6 of the 1986 World

Series. Phillies fans keep wanting to know why Jim Fregosi insisted on bringing in Mitch Williams in the '93 Series.

No surprise. Bobby Cox of Atlanta and Tony La Russa of St. Louis have gotten their share of skewering during the NL championship series.

La Russa was criticized for failing to order a bunt in Game 1, which his Cardinals eventually lost.

Cox was barbed for benching Ryan Klesko, who hit 34 home runs this season, in place of 19-year-old Andrew Jones in a Game 3 loss. He also was hammered for not sacrificing after a leadoff double in the last inning in the Braves'

one-run loss in Game 4. La Russa is accustomed to all of the second-guessing.

"If it doesn't work out at this time of the season, someone is going to say you should have done something else," La Russa said. "You understand that. If you don't like it, go manage a semipro team."

Despite any complaints, Cox and La Russa have enjoyed plenty of success.

Cox was set to tie Casey Stengel last night for the most postseason games managed in baseball history at 63. Then again, Stengel got all of his in the World Series, but Cox has guided the Braves to five straight postseason appearances.

Cox ranked No. 1 for most wins in league championship series with 19. La Russa, whose teams have won six division titles, was tied for second with Sparky Anderson with 18 victories.

Last night's NLCS at Atlanta Today: St. Louis at Atlanta, 8:11 pm (EDT), if necessary (St. Louis leads series 3-2)

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Dallas Stars keep rolling along

DALLAS (Reuters) - The surprising Dallas Stars just keep on winning with the high-powered Detroit Red Wings their latest victims.

Jere Lehtinen and Sergei Zubov scored 17 seconds apart in the second period and Arnars Irbe made 32 saves as the Stars skated to a 3-1 victory Tuesday, their sixth in as many games.

Guy Carbonneau added a goal and an assist for the Stars, who have outscored their opponents 23-11 and are off to their best start in franchise history, a league-best 6-0-0.

Irbe allowed only Darren McCarty's goal at 9:09 of the first period. Dallas responded with three second-period goals, ending

an 11-game winless streak against Detroit.

"It's not hard to play behind a defense like that," Irbe said. "The defense and forwards gave me a clear look at a lot of shots and I even had a second to recover on deflections."

Lehtinen deflected Derian Hatcher's wrist shot from the top of the right faceoff circle past Mike Vernon at 7:12 of the second.

Seventeen seconds later Zubov, who was acquired from Pittsburgh in the off-season, broke a 1-1 deadlock by firing a wrist shot from the blue line over Vernoo's left shoulder for his first goal for Dallas.

Guy Carbonneau completed the

scoring just over seven minutes later.

"It's special to come away with a win like that against one of the top teams," Irbe said.

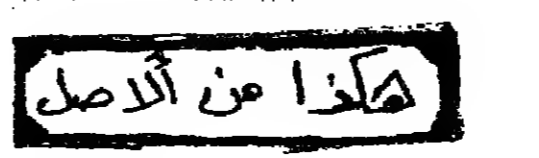
The loss was a costly one for Detroit. Steve Yzerman left the game in the third period after getting hit in the face with a stick. Tim Taylor went out in the first with a shoulder injury and Igor Larionov left with a groin injury.

Lightning 4, Sabres 0
Dino Ciccarelli scored twice and Corey Schwab turned aside 22 shots for his first NHL shutout.

Schwab faced just six shots in the second period and seven in the third from a weak Buffalo attack that has scored only three goals in its last four games.

Devils 3, Canadiens 2
Valeri Zelpukhin had a goal and two assists and Martin Brodeur made 28 saves as the host Devils held on to win.

TUESDAY'S RESULTS:
Tampa Bay 4, Buffalo 9
New Jersey 3, Montreal 2
Chicago 3, Toronto 1
Dallas 3, Detroit 1
Colorado 7, Edmonton 2
Los Angeles 3, Philadelphia 2



Zionism centennial launched in capital

IN the coming decade, we have to aim at bringing most of the Jewish people to Israel. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu declared yesterday at a Beit Hanassi ceremony marking 100 years of Zionism.

[Theodor] Herzl, [Max] Nordau, and the other early Zionists envisioned a country where most, though perhaps not all, Jews would live. They did not say we would be able to stop all attacks on Jews, but believed we would overcome them and rebuild the people into a nation here. This still has not happened and, for historical reasons, has not been the prime national aim of previous governments," Netanyahu said.

He pointed out that, in the first 50 years of Zionism, antisemitism was the major danger. "But since then, Zionism is being forced instead to compete with assimilation."

"After the Holocaust, the surviving Jewish population should have numbered 24 million by today. Instead, we have lost some 12 million Jews to assimilation - twice the number we lost to Hitler."

BATSHEVA TSUR

Netanyahu said that all national resources must be pooled to achieve the original vision of Herzl and Nordau in the coming decade.

The festive ceremony was attended by previous presidents Yitzhak Navon and Chaim Herzog, as well as cabinet ministers, Supreme Court justices, Zionist Executive members, a large Druze delegation, members of youth movements, and other Zionists young and old.

"The original problem with Zionism," President Ezer Weizman told the participants, "was that most of the Jews of the world were not excited by the Zionist ideal."

There was another problem, he said, reminding the participants of the local Arab population, which was already here when the Jews arrived. "In 1947, the Arabs would not agree to partition, so that today they will have to make do with less. We, the Jews, did not succeed in getting all our brethren to join us and to conquer more of the land, so

that we now have a problem with Judea and Samaria."

Notwithstanding this, Weizman said, if Israel becomes "even more precious a pearl than it is now, we will be able to attract new immigrants. Look at the success of the 700,000 immigrants who came from the CIS. It is a wonderful aliyah. And there is plenty of room in the Negev and the Galilee to settle people."

Weizman said that when peace is achieved in the region, Israel will become even more attractive.

Jewish Agency and World Zionist Organization Chairman Avraham Burg noted that it was Zionism which held together the rich mosaic of Jews from different ethnic and religious backgrounds. "What is needed in an age of post-Zionism," he said, "is a reform that will enable Jews to live with Jews in a pluralistic manner."

The WZO will orchestrate a number of events and ceremonies during the festive year, which precedes Israel's 50th anniversary, to pay tribute to Zionism.

In July 1997, the 15th Maccabiah will open with a sound



Reuma Weizman (right) dances the Macarena with Carole Solomon, president of the International Lions of Judah Conference, and immigrant teenagers yesterday.

and light show dedicated to the centennial. In Basel, the government of the canton will hold the central event at the Casino Auditorium where the First Zionist Congress was held. There will also be academic conferences and exhibitions in Basel. Numerous events will also be held here.

WEATHER

Galilee	10-24
Hatza	18-28
Tiberias	19-31
Amal	18-30
Samaritan	12-25
Tel Aviv	17-28
Jerusalem	11-25
Beer Sheva	17-29
Dead Sea	20-32
Eilat	22-33

Forecast: Clear. Rise in temperatures.

AROUND THE WORLD

	LOW	HIGH	C	F	Cloud
Amsterdam	8	14	57	57	cloudy
Berlin	10	18	64	64	cloudy
Buenos Aires	12	24	75	75	clear
Cairo	14	28	79	79	partly
Chicago	14	28	79	79	cloudy
Copenhagen	8	15	59	59	cloudy
Frankfurt	12	20	68	68	cloudy
Helsinki	11	20	68	68	cloudy
Hong Kong	25	27	81	81	clear
London	14	20	68	68	cloudy
Los Angeles	10	18	64	64	partly
Madrid	14	24	75	75	cloudy
Moscow	8	18	64	64	cloudy
Munich	10	18	64	64	cloudy
New York	11	20	68	68	partly
Paris	10	18	64	64	cloudy
Rome	10	18	64	64	partly
Sao Paulo	15	22	77	77	cloudy
Sydney	15	22	77	77	partly
Tel Aviv	18	28	82	82	cloudy
Vienna	14	20	68	68	partly
Zurich	8	14	57	57	rain

US senator blasts Swiss for delaying WWII investigation

THE Swiss are playing "the old game of delay" in their investigation of their dealings with the Nazis, Senator Alfonse D'Amato, chairman of the Senate Banking Committee, charged yesterday in New York.

He assailed a five-year Swiss inquiry, just getting under way, into its World War II activities, saying that if the Swiss want to be "helpful," their inquiry should not take five years.

"It's unconscionable," he said at a special Banking Committee hearing yesterday in New York. "It's the old game of delay, delay. They want to stall this till there is no memory of the survivors."

Although a half-dozen witnesses testified about inability to recover family assets from Swiss banks, D'Amato's ire focused on the federal Swiss investigation into Switzerland's wartime relations

MARILYN HENRY
NEW YORK

with Germany.

He did not mention the work of an independent committee, chaired by former Federal Reserve Chairman Paul Volcker, that will arrange for an audit of the Swiss banks specifically to try to determine heirs of the dormant accounts.

The guidelines for that audit are expected to be made public tomorrow in Zurich, when the commission will hold its second formal meeting.

The Volcker committee, borne of an agreement between the Swiss Bankers Association and the World Jewish Restitution Organization, has said previously that it will limit its inquiry into the question of dormant accounts in

banks, and will not deal with the matter of looted gold.

The recovery, amount and distribution of looted gold has become a dominant issue. Switzerland's responsibility to turn over looted gold was legally settled in the 1946 Washington Agreement with the Allies.

However, many have contended that the Swiss failed to turn over a sufficient amount, and in effect profited from their dealings with the Nazis at the expense of the Jews.

D'Amato further charged yesterday that there is "a conspiracy of silence that this country aided in 1946 when we signed that accord."

The US State Department announced recently that it also would conduct a review, focused on diplomatic activities, of its war-time relations with the Swiss.

Two attacks on SLA positions

DAVID RUDGE

FIGHTING continued in the security zone yesterday with two separate long-range attacks on South Lebanese Army positions.

In the first incident, in the early hours of the morning, gunmen opened fire with mortars and light weapons at an SLA outpost in the eastern sector of the zone, without causing any casualties or damage.

Later, in the afternoon, another SLA position in the same region, came under mortar fire. There were no casualties in that incident, either and IDF and SLA gunmen returned fire.

The long-range attacks have become an almost twice daily

occurrence in the past few weeks, with most of the operations being carried out by Hizbullah. The organization's Shi'ite rival Amal, however, has also intensified its activities against the IDF and SLA.

Meanwhile, the Grapes of Wrath monitoring committee, meeting at the UNIFIL headquarters in Nakoura, continued its discussion of Lebanon's complaint over IDF shelling last Friday that hit homes in Safad-Batikh village, wounding 12 civilians, four of them seriously. The incident happened during an

exchange with Hizbullah gunmen, after the latter fired mortars at IDF troops on operational duties in the Barasheet region, in the western sector of the zone.

Representatives of the committee, with the exception of Israel's delegates, visited the scene of the shelling on Tuesday and later the American, French and Israeli officials visited the artillery battery site in Israel.

According to reports from Lebanon, American and French representatives visited the security zone yesterday before returning to Nakoura to continue the discussions.

Winning cards

THE winning cards in yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily chance draw were the jack of spades, ace of hearts, seven of diamonds, and eight of clubs.

Knesset panel receives report on burial society

THE Tel Aviv Hevra Kadisha (burial society) suffers from irregularities, corruption, and grossly inflated salaries, according to reports presented to the Knesset Interior Committee yesterday.

Police are examining charges of fraud, corruption, and breach of trust related to the burial society.

Some of the charges carry a 10-year sentence, according to the report by Supt. Ya'acov Grossman, deputy head of the police investigations department.

Zvi Porat, an accountant who

LIAT COLLINS

was appointed to oversee the society's operations, raised several complaints, saying there were ongoing irregularities. The society has racked up a deficit of millions of shekels.

"The development budget was used to subsidize the operating budget, which is unacceptable. Some 50,000 burial plots which were sold in advance were used for current expenses," Porat said.

The expenses include wages,

which reach NIS 30,000 a month for some workers, and between NIS 13,000 and NIS 16,000 for 20 percent of the workers. The committee also heard of intrigues between the ousted head of the society, Aryeh Friedler, and the workers union.

There was also much criticism of former director Yisrael Ehrlich, who recently retired and who had functioned as both the director-general and chairman of the board.

The committee heard that in addition to his large salary, he received huge benefits and loans amounting to NIS 600,000, which he had not returned.

Internal inquiries had been ignored, according to statements by workers.

Army: Recruits less fit

ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

ONE in two recruits to infantry units this year are not in shape, failing their first physical fitness test in the army, the combat physical test. This compares to 40 percent who failed last year, according to IDF figures.

In artillery and armor units the situation is worse, with 60 percent failing the test.

The army said, however, that all soldiers are quickly whipped into shape, and by the time they finish basic training, about 85 percent pass the test, Israel Radio reported.

To pass the test - which is not to be confused with the physical that determines one's medical profile - the soldier must do sit-ups, pull-ups and push-ups and run 2,000 meters in a specified time frame, determined by the soldier's height and weight.

According to the latest IDF survey on physical fitness, the most fit recruits are those in the elite commando units. There, only 15 percent fail the fitness test on entry. All soldiers in those units pass the test by the end of basic training.

Lebanese spy suspects named

The names of four Lebanese citizens, arrested over a month ago for espionage, were released for publication by Tel Aviv District Court yesterday.

Ramzi Nahara, 31; Bassam Hatzbani, 36; Maher Tumah, 35; and Salim Salama, 37, have been indicted on charges of espionage, abduction, and assisting an enemy state, but details on the charges are banned from publication. It is also not clear how they were brought here.

The prosecution has requested their remand until trial, but their lawyer asked Tel Aviv District Court to postpone the ruling until the beginning of November.

Raine Marcus

Northern residents to protest

Leaders of northern border communities are to stage a demonstration outside the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem tomorrow to press the government to honor promises to give them special aid. After Operation Grapes of Wrath, the previous government pledged an aid package totalling over NIS 900 million.

Ma'lot Mayor Shlomo Bubbut, chairman of the Forum of Heads of Confrontation Line Communities, said Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and government ministers had pledged to honor the commitments, but "little had been done. The demonstration is coinciding with the weekly cabinet meeting."

David Rudge

Nursing home head fined

Clara Chona, the director of Beit Marima, a private nursing home in Jerusalem that operated without a license, was given a NIS 5,000 fine or six months imprisonment by a judge yesterday.

The nursing home was inspected by the Health Ministry last month. Inspectors found several patients with pressure sores, and one sitting in his own excrement. Patients lay in bed without emergency buttons; drugs were left in a kitchen cabinet without separation; and manpower was short. Despite a closing order, the institution continued to function. The judge said that if the home remained open, Chona would be fined an additional NIS 500 per day.

Judy Siegel

Technology center innaugurated

A \$4 million technology center has been inaugurated at Tel Hai College, opening with 15 students. The construction of the 3,500-sq-meter complex was made possible by contributions from US businessman Michael Rodman of Baltimore, the Balfin family of London, a group of French industrialists, and donations from other groups.

The center has been designed to help cope with the increased demand for places at the college, which has 6,000 registered students, after it was accredited by the Council for Higher Education for BA or equivalent studies.

David Rudge

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